

Women to get retirement age equality

By Amanda Haigh, Parliamentary Staff

Women will have the right to continue working until the same age as men under Government plans for equality of retirement age announced yesterday by the Department of Employment.

and the Government believes that the new statutory protections are a desirable extension of equal opportunity.

The Government plans to make the amendments when the Sex Discrimination Bill, now in the House of Lords, enters the Commons, which could be as early as May, which means it could become law within 18 months.



Sir Geoffrey, in yellow turban and gariand, at a community centre in Chauhama, near Agra, where he laid a foundation stone on which he was named as "The Hon'able Sir Geoffrey".

New Delhi Sikh deal ruled out

From Michael Hanly, Delhi

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, last night virtually ruled out the possibility of negotiating a new extradition treaty with India to deal with the problem of Sikh extremist separatists operating in Britain.

Search for £80m 'spent' by GLC before abolition

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

A hurried search began yesterday to round up between £80 million and £100 million of Greater London Council money, after a photocopy of two cheques for £33 million and £45 million was found in an office vacated by a committee chairman.

North Sea oil under \$10 for first time

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The price of North Sea oil fell below \$10 a barrel for the first time ever yesterday. Dealers expect a further drop in the price, to a level which could threaten the viability of some of Britain's offshore oilfields.

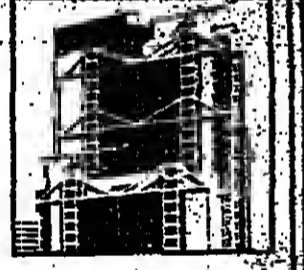
The renewed weakness of oil prices provides an early threat to the Chancellor's tax projections. If prices remain at present levels, oil revenues will be £2 billion short of planned levels in 1986-87.

Britons held on drugs charges in Australia

Three south Londoners were yesterday being held by Customs officers in Australia

Courthill Road, Lewisham, was given bail on two sureties each of £20,000 charged under the Misuse of Drugs Act with assisting in smuggling 4.75 kilos of cocaine into Australia.

Tomorrow Reach for the sky



How Norman Foster built the world's most expensive skyscraper in Hong Kong

Power of Islam

Robert Fisk on the fundamentalist upheaval in Beirut

Portfolio

There is £4,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio competition because there was no winner yesterday.

Moscow still wants summit

The Soviet Union wants a full summit with President Reagan this year as well as the emergency meeting on nuclear test bans which the White House has rejected.

Boycott vote

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers voted at its annual conference in Scarborough yesterday to boycott training courses for the planned General Certificate of Secondary Education.

Unionists reject Thatcher talks

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Unionist leaders have rejected Prime Minister Thatcher's offer of further talks on the Anglo-Irish agreement, bringing the prospect of escalating street disorder and loyalist protests in Northern Ireland.

Heathrow opens new terminal

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Heathrow's massive new Terminal 4 was officially opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales yesterday before starting passenger business on April 12.

French quit

France's decision to withdraw its military observers from Beirut marks a shift away from its support for President Gemayel.

Canadian Club goes British

Allied-Lions, the Tetley tea to Double Diamond food and drinks group, is buying the Canadian company, Hiram Walker Spirits, one of the world's biggest distillers, for £2.6 billion (£1.27 billion).

Tin crisis stops Cornish mining

One of the Cornish tin producers struggling to survive in the wake of the tin crisis announced yesterday that mining would be suspended from Monday and that most of its 358 employees would be laid off in the next two weeks.

Hampton Court work 'to take years'

By Alan Hamilton

The full extent of the damage done by Monday's fire at Hampton Court Palace emerged yesterday as experts predicted restoration costs of many millions of pounds, and Buckingham Palace announced that the five destroyed works of art valued at £135,000.

Royal homes

of Gold by an unknown sixteenth-century artist, were damaged, mainly by water.

Laing & Cruickshank

More than just a Stockbroker

Advertisement for Laing & Cruickshank, a stockbroker. The ad includes the company name in a stylized font, the tagline 'More than just a Stockbroker', and contact information for their London office at 75 Cannon Row, EC2R 7BE. It also mentions a branch in Edinburgh and a website URL.

Professional men most likely to cite adultery as grounds for divorce

By Thomson Prentice

Divorce statistics seem to show a class distinction between what are considered acceptable grounds for ending a marriage, a survey has shown.

The survey of the reasons for divorce in England and Wales shows a "distinct social class gradient" in the proportion of divorce decrees which are awarded to wives.

Women married to men in professional occupations are least likely to seek divorce, especially on grounds of unreasonable behaviour, compared with those whose husbands have an unskilled job.

But professional men cited adultery by their wives as grounds for divorce in the majority of their cases - 46 per cent - while only one wife in four married to a professional alleged his adultery.

"Adultery is cited relatively more often among couples in the higher social classes than in the manual occupation social classes," Mr John Haskay, a statistician at the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys in London, says in his report.

Warning to hostels on alcohol

The tradition of youth hostels in England and Wales as healthy, safe refuges for young travellers is in danger of being eroded, it was claimed yesterday.

Action on Alcohol Abuse condemned a motion to be considered by a Youth Hostels Association council conference on Saturday, allowing wine and beer to be served with meals to people aged 18 and over and on special occasions at the YHA's 260 hostels.

Mr Don Steele, AAA director, said in London: "The YHA, which stands in the best tradition of British provision for the health and well-being of young people, will become just another licensed hotel."

The AAA was formed three years ago at a conference of medical colleges. Mr Andrew Chinnock, the YHA's chief executive, said yesterday: "In no way are our hostels going to become drinking dens." A trial scheme, allowing beer and wine with meals to people aged 18 and over was introduced two years ago in three hostels in the West Country and the Peak District. There was no evidence of alcohol abuse.

Firm set to defy the Queen

By Gavin Bell

An Essex company is set to incur royal displeasure by printing half a million colour transfers for T-shirts to commemorate the wedding of Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson in July.

Imagine Transfers of Braintree, will begin printing the heart-shaped transfers today, depicting the royal couple with the legend "congratulations", in response to trade demand from Europe and the Commonwealth.

Lord Airlie, Lord Chamberlain, started a controversy last week by announcing that royal portraits and emblems should not be reproduced on clothing other than headscarves.

Venables plea

Terry Venables, aged 43, the manager of Barcelona football club, is petitioning for divorce, according to a statement issued by his wife's solicitors yesterday.

Portrait of a top executive

By Robin Young

The average chief executive of a leading British company is male, aged 52, married with two or more children, and has responsibility for 5,656 employees. He spends 52 nights a year away from home on business, and arrives at the office well before 8.20 am unless he is taking one of his 22 days' annual leave, almost certainly abroad.

This portrait emerges from a study of corporate leadership prepared by PA consulting group, the international management and technology advisers, who surveyed 256 companies from *The Times* Top 1000.

office and drive themselves to work. They are health-conscious and set aside time for relaxation and sport (usually golf, tennis, or walking). Only 2 per cent jog. Their most popular pastimes are music, gardening and reading.

They are the consultants defence, increasingly international in outlook (more than half have spent more than three and a half years working abroad), but more concerned with people than profit. Nearly 70 per cent listed "people concerns" such as communication, motivation and selection of managers as their most important responsibilities. Only just over a quarter cited profit, financial performance and return to shareholders.

More than half said they had instituted formal processes to encourage innovation in their companies. Nearly one-fifth use a desk-top terminal, one-third a car phone, and nearly two-fifths a dictating machine. Yet, in maximizing their personal productivity only 2 per cent mentioned the use of computers.

Many felt that there was much to be done to improve attitudes towards business and manufacturing in Britain was to become competitive again. Nearly half called for better education and more professional training, and there was strong criticism of the public school system that two-fifths of them had experienced.

Two-fifths of the respondents could remember particular incidents which they felt had provided them with crucial lessons in leadership. Almost all were moments of intense conflict, such as facing bankruptcy, strikes, redundancies, industrial injuries and takeovers.

But one man remembered a teenage cricket triumph, another his first sight of Japanese consensus-style management, and a third mentioned his first visit to the shop-floor. It was the first time the workers had ever seen their managing director.

Study of Corporate Leadership in Britain, 1989, PA consulting group, Rutland House, Rutland Gardens, London, SW7 1BY.

Royal opening for £200m terminal

By Michael Bailey

Transport Editor

The Prince and Princess of Wales formally opened the new Terminal 4 yesterday, to consolidate Heathrow's position as the world's top international airport.

Costing £200 million to build over four years, T4 will raise Heathrow traffic from 30 million to 38 million passengers a year, and should provide a substantial boost to British Airways, its main user.

In a wry comment on the size of the new terminal, the Prince said that he and his wife seemed to have walked miles, and suggested that the long vistas in modern airport terminals were perhaps designed to ensure that the passenger fell asleep as soon as he boarded the aircraft.

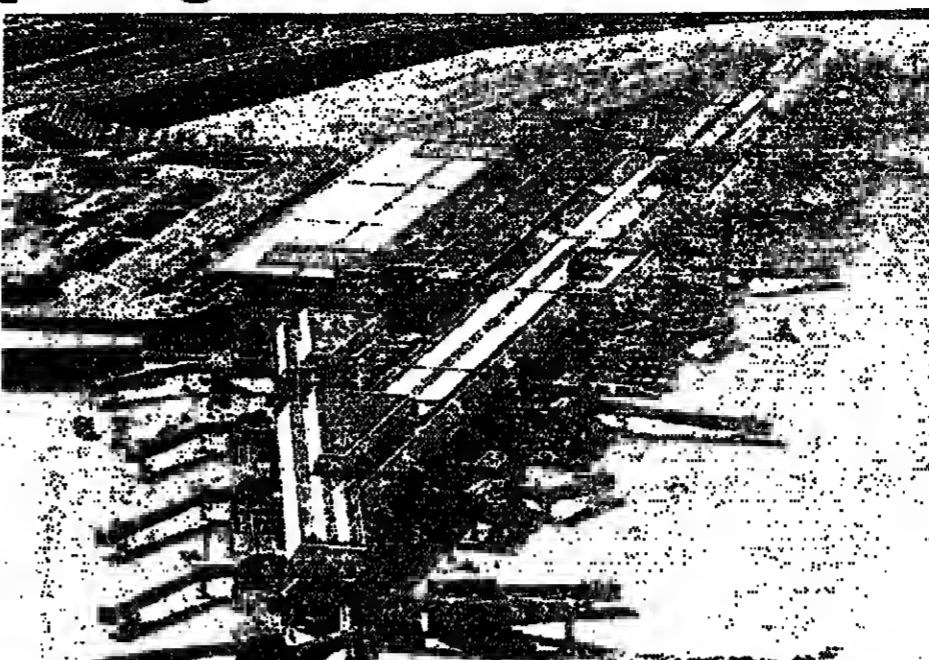
Before opening the terminal, the Prince and Princess inaugurated the London Underground's new £23 million extension to the Piccadilly Line, taking airport passengers on a loop beneath the airport, first to the new Heathrow Terminal 4 station, then to Heathrow Terminal 1, 2 and 3, formerly Heathrow Central.

The Prince's injured finger led to the royal couple performing a double act in opening the new Underground station, with the Princess holding the ribbon while the Prince snipped it with scissors in his uninjured right hand.

Later the couple joined more than 800 guests for lunch in the departure lounge of T4, which is more than two-thirds of a mile long and probably the world's most spacious airport terminal.

Hundreds of staff were on duty manning their normal positions in an attempt to create an illusion of a normal day at the newest terminal of the world's busiest international airport.

All the shops were manned and many of the British Airways and KLM check-in desks were staffed. Bank, catering, and bar staff were on duty. British Airways had even parked a Boeing 747 and a Concorde close to their normal stands.



Situated on the perimeter of the airport, T4 enjoys the advantage of better road connections to London, with a separate exit from the M25 that avoids the frequent jams in the tunnel to Terminals 1, 2 and 3.

But aircraft for T4 will need to cross a runway, which could cause queues.

About two-thirds of T4's eight million passengers a year will be on long-haul flights, relieving pressure on the cramped T3, which is to be modernized at a cost of more than £70 million.

In performing the opening ceremony, the Prince and Princess were continuing a Royal tradition started by the Queen when she opened the central passenger terminal 31 years ago.

Sir Norman Payne, Chairman of the British Airports Authority, said that Britain still enjoyed supremacy in international aviation, but Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and New York were all investing heavily.

"There is a long-term underlying growth in aviation", Sir Norman said, "but we have to run faster to hold on to our lead. Terminal 4 will play an important part in that."

Duke puts plan to aid sports sponsors

The Duke of Edinburgh has repeated his call for a counselling service to be set up to help prospective sponsors of sporting events.

He also wants a subcommittee in reverse Parliamentary and Whitehall liaison in order that the real achievements of sports sponsorship can be put across.

The Duke was outlining a 12-point plan to make life easier for companies wishing to be involved in sports sponsorship, in his capacity as president of the Institute of Sports Sponsorship, which was formed five months ago and has already tripled its membership.

He said: "The sponsorship of sport has been transformed in the last 10 years. It is vital that this large and growing financial investment is put to best use for the benefit of both sport and the sponsoring company. The issue will play an increasingly important role in this area."

"I firmly believe that commercial companies have a great deal more to offer than simply money, and I hope that their professional expertise will be extended, through the institute, to governing bodies to improve efficiency, extend the sport's appeal and establish long-term and rewarding partnerships between sport and commerce."

Fan punched a policeman

A football supporter who punched a policeman as he was being arrested for trying to prevent another fan's arrest was sent to a detention centre for three weeks at Marylebone Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Luke Tait, aged 19, of Manor Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, a first offender, was arrested during a match at Loftus Road, west London, in February.



The Prince of Wales using his "good" hand to cut the ribbon when opening Terminal 4 at Heathrow airport yesterday.

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Drugs 'rival tobacco as threat to discipline' in growing jails crisis

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Drugs have become as important as tobacco as an illicit currency in jail, according to Wandsworth Prison's board of visitors.

As a result discipline and control are undermined, the board says in its report for 1985. Trafficking in the prison is serious.

Wandsworth's report is only one sign of the growing prison crisis which has almost brought officers to the point of industrial action, one of the most difficult situations the Home Office has to face.

The threat by the Prison Officers' Association comes as the jail population in England and Wales has climbed to 47,123, the highest figure this year, increasing already unacceptable overcrowding.

The latest figure for people held in police cells, acknowledged to be unsuitable for the purpose, is 39, all in the South-east.

A circular by Mr David Evans, general secretary of the Prison Officers' Association, tells of the battle it says it has fought to protect essential services. These are regarded by prison staff as necessary to the effective running of the establishment.

They include the maintenance of proper levels of security and control, visits and association between prisoners out of their cells at set hours and workshops.

Staff say that a budget cut last year meant a reduction of about 1 1/2 hours a week in the work done by each officer.

This year, there is, they claim, a further reduction of about three hours a week. Although excessive overtime has been a recurring issue in prisons, the argument against cutting hours generally is that life for prisoners and staff becomes more restrictive, with increased tension as a result.

The association says new cuts to essential tasks are being proposed by the management to remain within budget. There are, it adds, cases where governors are rejecting established agreements as the basis for negotiation, and are making up their rules as they go along.

The prison officers are seeking a meeting of the Home Office prison department's Whitley council. It is expected to take place next Tuesday. The council is a forum for the discussion by management and staff representatives of conditions. If the meeting is

unsuccessful, there will be a ballot of members calling for industrial action.

The action will seek to protect manning levels. Mr Evans says in his circular, protect staff and inmate safety, and ensure prison regimes remain humane.

Prison officers say a bigger squeeze on cash limits could so restrict life in prisons that the individual safety of staff and prisoners would be threatened.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, announced on March 25 that 54 prison workshops would close. A further 31 would remain open provided improved performance could be sustained.

Six hundred inmates would be sent to other workshops, other jobs in prison or to educational or other training courses.

The closure of workshops at Holloway Prison, London, the under use of sports facilities and cancellation of education classes was yesterday criticized by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders. Prisoners were having to spend much too long in their cells, Miss Vivien Stern, Nacro's director, said.

The planning muddle: 1

Rubbish dump legacy of a long-defunct council

Ministers want to loosen controls in the planning system because they act as "a brake on enterprise and an job-creating". But as Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent, reports, there are those for whom the system is quite loose enough already.

The garden at Stock Farm House slopes gently towards a belt of trees. The scene is set in leafy countryside in one of the more comfortable outer reaches of London's commuterland. It is classed officially as an area of outstanding natural beauty.

It is wise not to try to sample the beauty just beyond the end of the garden too closely. People can remember when the land behind the house was typical flat Surrey scrubland where village children played.

Today the same space is ringed by strands of barbed wire as a quarry is blasted and dug to a depth of 100ft and a width of about 700ft.

Mr Christopher Monk, who owns the house, does not want a deep quarry at the end of his garden, especially one at which only strands of wire keep wandering children at bay. He wants a rubbish dump even less, but that is what the immense hole is supposed to become once its potential as a quarry has been exhausted.

Mr Monk has won wide support from local people who have turned themselves into a



Mr Christopher Monk and his wife at the barbed wire fence surrounding the quarry workings (Photograph: Peter Trivelpy).

protest group called the Stockstone Quarry Action Working Committee, or Sqawc for short.

The recent rapid expansion of the quarry has been based on a planning permission issued in 1952 by a council that was abolished more than 10 years ago. "It is perfectly ridiculous that a licence granted in 1952 should be suddenly

brought to life in a completely different way", Mr Monk complained.

The licence said that when the quarry had been fully worked it would have to be filled in or have its surface covered with "materials agreed to be suitable for plant growth".

Stockstone quarry looks ideal with its direct road access less than 50 miles from

London, except that many local people fear the endless rumble of heavy lorries. The dumping plan is opposed by many parish councils, but their collective wrath is not enough to overrule the county authority.

Sqawc is therefore about to take the case to the High Court.

Tomorrow: The looming warehouse.

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The Territorial Army is expanding, and we are looking for more Officers. But of course, before you become an Officer, you have to join the Territorial Army, and start training hard with the rest of those who currently make up one third of Her Majesty's Armed Forces on land.

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During your basic training we'll decide whether you have the potential to become a Territorial Army Officer.

Then, and only then, we'll arrange for you to spend a fortnight at a place you may have heard of. It's called the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. And, realistically, you can expect to have been with us for some two years before you get through the gates, though some manage it after just one.

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You'll learn a great deal there, from weaponry, drill and map reading, to tactics and fieldcraft. From night exercises and obstacle crossing, to command techniques. (You'll soon find out that command is more than just giving orders.)

You'll learn much more besides. In fact, you'll be surprised just how much you can learn in two weeks. And we'll learn a lot about you, before we decide to give you your commission.

Time commitment.

All this means giving up some of your spare time. At least eight weekends a year plus a fortnight camp and some weekday evenings is the basic requirement,

though once you've experienced the unique challenge of the TA, and begun to understand the full importance of its role, the chances are you will want to put in more time.

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to ask a lot more questions than we have room to answer here. Questions about pay, discipline, employers' attitudes, or how we'd use any specialist skills you may have.

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BBC to go private on catering

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

The BBC is to privatize its catering services, saving £2 million a year with the loss of 588 jobs.

The proposal is the latest step in a reorganization programme designed to switch funds from administration to programme-making.

The changes, when complete, are likely to lead to a total loss of 2,000 staff jobs in engineering, security and administration. The BBC hopes that the changes will help to pay for more new programmes and the start of daytime television in the autumn.

BBC executives want to prove that the corporation is now run as a "tight ship" and defeat critics who want to see advertising on its broadcasts.

Most of the corporation's London catering units will be put in the hands of private contractors next month.

Of the posts lost in the catering reorganization, 100 are already unfilled and a further 51 will be lost through retirement. Private caterers at Television Centre, Broadcasting House and Lime Grove, are expected to employ some of the present staff.

In November, the corporation announced the loss of 550 posts, mainly in engineering, releasing £15.6 million for programme production. Two months later a further 625 jobs in engineering and support services were cut to save £7.5 million.

The BBC's commercial arm has signed a three year agreement with EMI records for the manufacture and distribution of the corporation's records.

Osprey is back in fixed nest

By Ronald Faux

An osprey has returned to the nesting site at Loch Garten in the Highlands. This sure sign of spring was doubly welcomed by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, which feared that the ospreys might not return after vandals cut the top 20 feet off the 50ft pine tree where ospreys have nested for the past 27 years.

The site is now protected by alarms and a 24-hour watch by volunteers.

Mr John Hunt, reserves manager for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in Scotland, said yesterday that a female osprey, which had laid eggs for the past five years at the loch, had settled at the nest.

The birds are sensitive to severe changes at the nest site. When vandals tried to cut down the tree, severing two of the main branches, the society feared that the ospreys would reject the repaired tree, which has bolted on branches and a nest refurbished on a platform. Mr Hunt said the female had flown from Africa, where she had wintered, on Monday. She had landed on the nest, and accepted it immediately.

But the next few weeks will be a crucial time for a male to appear. Unfortunately the male last year flew into a wire and was killed.

More than one million people have visited the loch site since it was opened. There are 30 pairs of ospreys in the Scottish Highlands. The population built up from near extinction in 1914 when the birds were persecuted and preyed upon by egg-collectors.

Drug addicts are given priority for housing

Edinburgh District Council voted yesterday to give priority on the city's housing waiting list to drug addicts who were reforming.

Mr Nigel Griffiths, the housing committee chairman, said that only about a dozen cases would be involved.

The decision was condemned by the Conservative opposition. Mr Paul Martin, the party's leader, said that the menace of drugs might be introduced into parts of the city where it was not a problem.

Housing priority would be given to any drug addicts who claimed to be attempting to give up their addiction. The

Conservatives believed that the drug problem was most successfully handled by voluntary organizations, supported by the council.

They would ask every tenants' association to get in touch with their local councillor if they had any fears about the scheme.

"Those people who have been on the waiting list for many years will be appalled to find they have been jumped over in this way," Mr Martin said.

The ruling Labour group said they were merely putting in writing what had been agreed all-party procedure for the past 18 months.

Nine stranded as sailing ship runs aground

Nine people were stranded early yesterday after a 60-tonne sail training ship, the Robert Gordon, ran aground off the Kent coast.

A Sheerness lifeboat stood by for more than six hours waiting for high tide to free the 70ft vessel, which had wedged itself on a sand bank.

The sailing ship was then towed into Queenborough, on the Isle of Sheppey. The crew was shaken but unhurt.

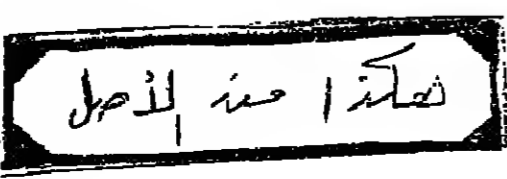
Mr Robin Castle, the lifeboat cox, said that four people, including two cadets aged 13 and 14, were ferried to land. The rest of the crew stayed on board the vessel.

At Torquay, Devon, a Soviet freighter, the Enkolot, towed two American women to safety after their yacht was dismasted in heavy seas early yesterday.

Scots launch charter for dole reform

Scottish churchmen, trade unionists and councillors announced yesterday that government plans to reform social security will put more people at risk and have failed to tackle the fundamental causes of poverty in Britain.

They launched a seven-page charter, outlining their own proposals for reform - including the elimination, so far as possible, of means testing - to be sent to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Social Services. More than 100 organizations have signed the charter, launched at the offices of the Scottish Trades Union Congress. The document claims that there is plenty of evidence that the wealthy gain far more from present inequalities in the system than those in receipt of benefits.



SAAB THE AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURER SAAB NOTHING ON EARTH COMES CLOSE

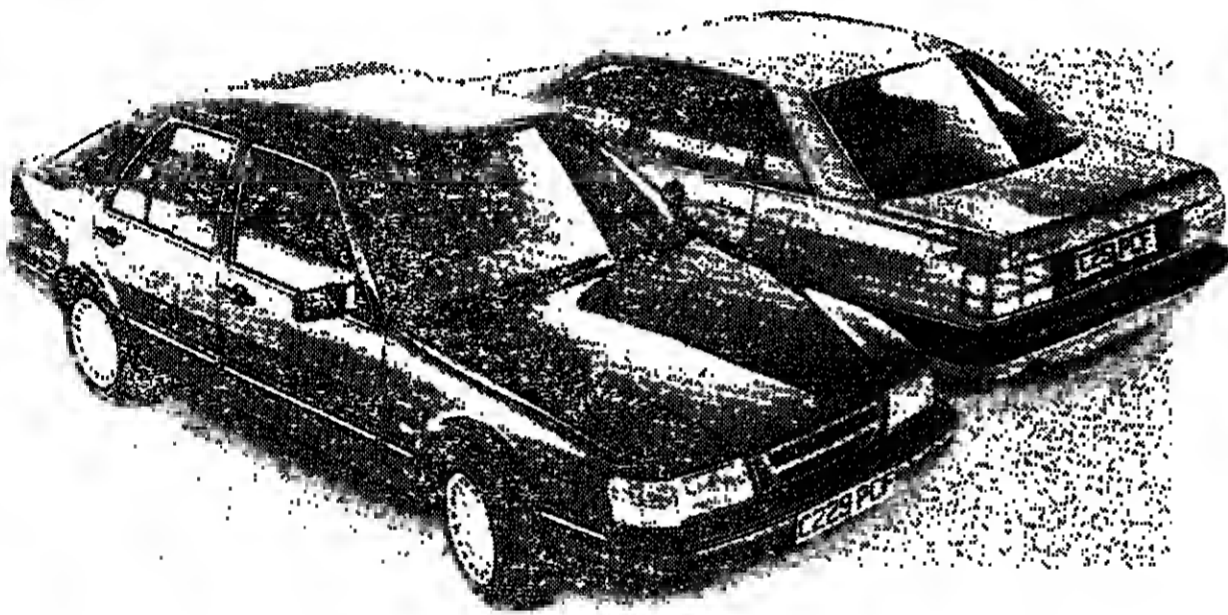
INTRODUCING
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Most Spacious Saloon.

This category provided a real turn-up for the books. The Audi 100, famous for its roominess, came in with a highly respectable EPA figure of 115.4.

Amazingly it was edged out by the shortest car in the class – the Saab 9000i with a cavernous interior measured at 126.

(For the technically minded, the EPA figure is a measurement by laser of the total area within a car, developed in the States.)



Most Comfortable Saloon.

This was an extremely close run affair. MOTOR summed it up thus:

Ride comfort... The 9000's superb suspension control is every bit as good as that of the Mercedes, the standard setter in this class. A highly honourable draw!*

However, take into account Saab's legendary skill at designing seats, and the 9000i is almost unbeatable at carrying up to 5 people in comfort.

Most Fuel Efficient Saloon.

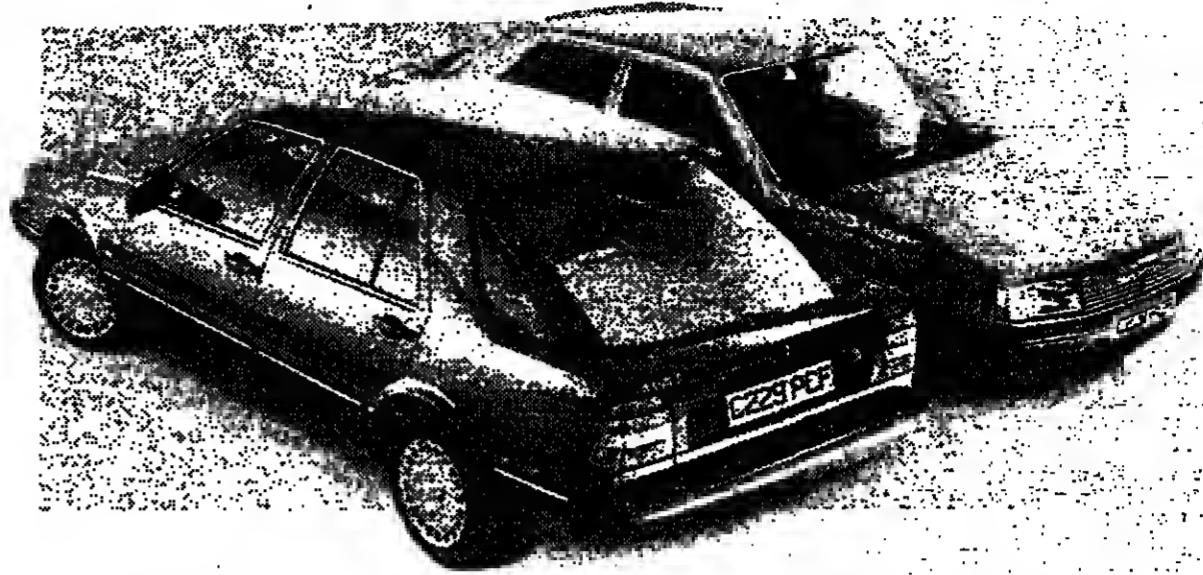
Saab and Mercedes feature strongly once again.

However, at a steady 56 mph, the 9000i achieves 47.9 mpg*



opposed to the Mercedes 200's 46.1[§] – something to do with the Saab's 16 valve engine compared to the Merc's 8 valves, we suspect

Plus the Merc costs £500 more than the Saab, and an extra £1,000 more to achieve the same specification level.



Most Aerodynamic Saloon.

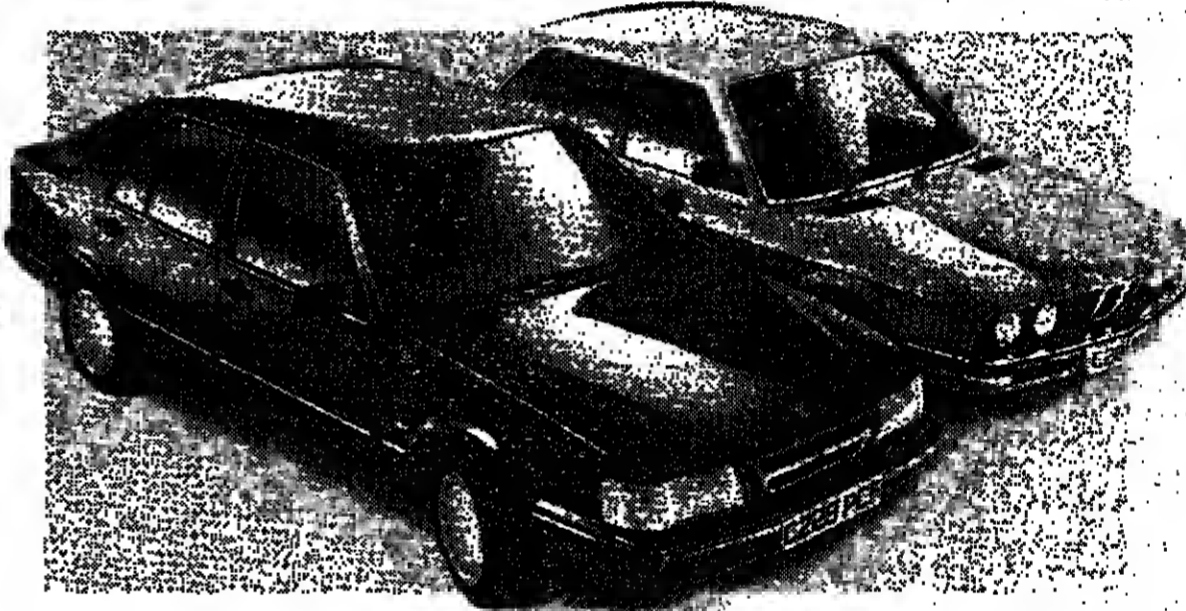
Of all the executive saloons, the Renault 25 range takes top honours with drag coefficient figures between 0.28 and 0.33†

Yet for the customer with up to £12,000 to spend there's a surprise in store.

The Saab 9000i achieves better average fuel economy, with a drag coefficient figure of 0.34† than the comparable Renault 25GTX.§

Best Appointed Saloon.

MOTOR (Nov 16, '85) got quite carried away at this particular point:



The Saab 9000 has a definite air of quality, easily in the class of BMW, and is furnished better than its principal German rivals.*

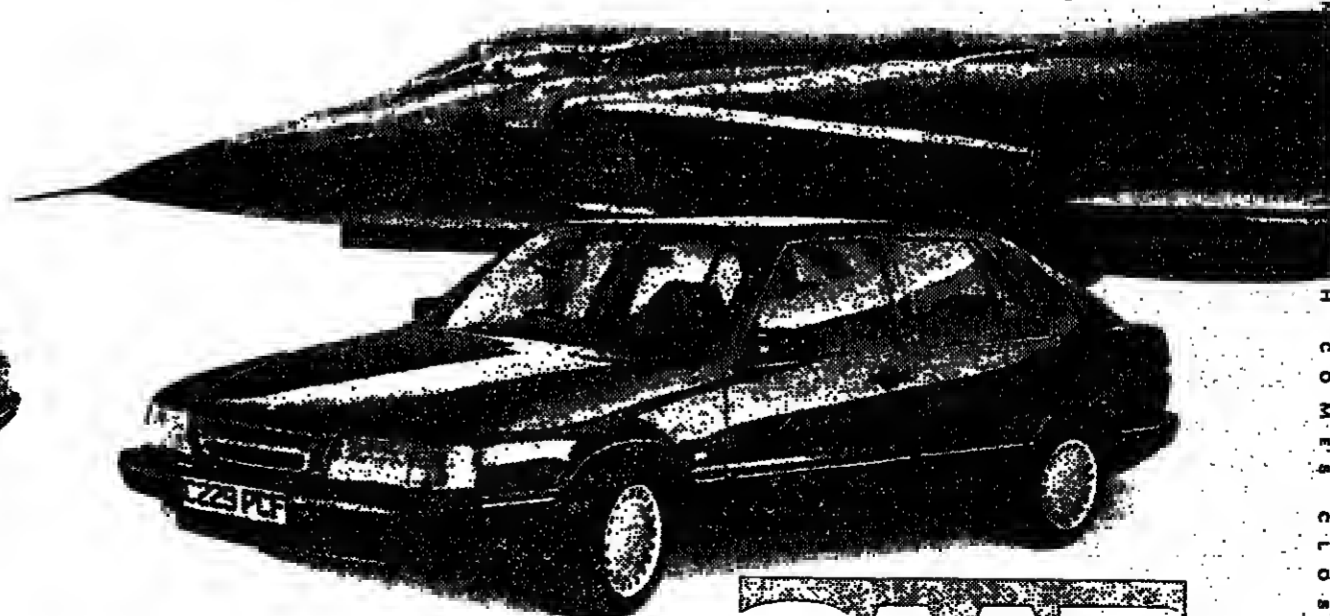
High praise indeed from such a respected journal.

Best Use of Ergonomics.

Here the competition for the Saab 9000i is particularly stiff – the Saab Viggen – the jet aircraft on which the 9000i's controls, instruments and dashboard layout are based.

But there again, the Viggen is outside your price bracket by roughly £7,000,000.

The Saab 9000i for £11,995. For more information and/or a test drive contact Saab on (0272) 217177.



*QUOTES TAKEN FROM 9000 TURBO 16 TEST – 9000 16 SIMILAR SPECIFICATION – MANUFACTURER'S FIGURES. †WHAT CAR? FIGURES. ‡DOT FIGURES (FIGURES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS). MODEL FEATURED SAAB 9000 WITH OPTIONAL METALLIC PAINT, PRICE ETC. 230. THE PRICE QUOTED (CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS) INCLUDES FRONT AND REAR SEAT BELTS, CAR TAX AND VAT BUT EXCLUDES DELIVERY, ROAD TAX, AND NUMBER PLATES. §DOT FUEL CONSUMPTION TESTS 9000i: URBAN CYCLE 23.9 MPG, CONSTANT 56 MPH 47.9 MPG, CONSTANT 75 MPH 35.3 MPG. EXPORT ENQUIRIES (01) 409 0890.

هناك من لا يرى

US complains of unfair trading

Transatlantic war of words over quotas heats up

From Richard Owen, Brussels

A heated war of words between the United States and the EEC over trade broke out yesterday with Mr Willy de Clercq, the EEC Commissioner for external relations, accusing President Reagan of unfriendly and needlessly aggressive action.

Mr de Clercq's angry statement came after a warning from the White House that it would impose fresh quotas and restrictions on agricultural imports from Western Europe because the enlarged Community of Twelve was discriminating against the United States.

The Americans complain that the EEC has imposed unfair restrictions on the importing of American cereals and oilseeds into Spain and Portugal, which joined the EEC three months ago.

Europe and America are already embroiled in a growing trade war over pasta, citrus fruits and steel products. EEC officials yesterday regretted the rising tone of hostility between Brussels and Washington and said that "personal

contact" between the two sides was being lost in a tide of rhetoric.

Mr de Clercq, currently on a visit to New Zealand, issued a statement saying Mr Reagan's actio was difficult to understand since America would derive considerable benefit from EEC enlargement, both politically and in terms of trade. The entry of Spain and Portugal would reinforce the Western alliance. Mr de Clercq said.

Last month Spain voted to stay in Nato in a national referendum, despite strong anti-Americanism in Spain, with many voters persuaded that there was a logical link between Spain's membership of Nato and its entry to the EEC.

Mr de Clercq said the EEC had shown its willingness to negotiate through Gatt, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. But America's "contingential approach" could lead to open commercial conflict.

He said the EEC had always scrupulously observed its Gatt

commitments, and new Iberian farm import rules under which Spain and Portugal buy from their EEC partners were in accordance with transitional accession arrangements.

Unilateral action by Washington would be an unjustified breach of Gatt, and the EEC could not accept such a flagrant violation of world free trade rules, the Commissioner said.

The American retaliatory quotas would bar \$1 billion (\$667 million) of EEC imports from getting into the US. They do not take effect, however, for a month, giving the two sides time to negotiate a compromise. But Washington also objects to new EEC meat inspection regulations which would hit American meat exports to Europe by approximately \$125 million.

The EEC argues that all such measures are offset by potential improved access to Spain and Portugal for American industrial goods as Iberian industrial tariffs drop from 15 per cent to the EEC average of only 5 per cent.

Aquino keeps eight Marcos generals

From Keith Dalton Manila

President Corazon Aquino yesterday approved the retirement of 20 generals and 19 colonels in the biggest mass retirement of senior military officers in Philippine history.

The state-run Philippine News Agency, however, said Mrs Aquino agreed to extend for six months the terms of eight generals, including three service chiefs, and three colonels on the recommendation of General Fidel Ramos, the armed forces chief.

The extensions violate her campaign pledge to remove from command all officers who have completed 30 years' service to allow the promotion of junior officers, caught in a backlog created by the deposed President, Mr Ferdinand Marcos, who during his 20-year rule extended for years the service of favoured generals.

Meanwhile, US and Filipino negotiators have agreed to end an 11-day-old strike at US military bases in the Philippines. A seven-point package was yesterday being taken to the 22,000 union members and, if approved, barricades outside the bases would be lifted and work would resume today.

The longest strike ever at American facilities centred around Washington's refusal to agree to workers' demands for severance pay on resignation. The compromise agreement provides optional retirement rates, a \$100 (about £67) "signing bonus" and 100lb of rice every three months.



Two members of the New People's Army show off their weapons just after getting married at a temporary camp of the communist rebels 50 miles north-east of Manila.

In return, US officials agreed not to retaliate against Filipino picketers who had blocked movement in and out of the bases.

Foreign Ministry sources indicated yesterday that its initial refusal to grant political asylum to Mr Marcos if President Aquino requested it (Richard Wigg writes).

Madrid: Spain would be willing to consider reversing the future of the former dictator

Time runs out for fugitives in Spain

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Spain's controversial aliens law, which Madrid could use to expel "undesirable" Britons wanted by Scotland Yard, came into force yesterday, eight months after being promulgated.

It had to be postponed three times because of bureaucratic delays due to insufficient personnel, and expulsion orders issued in a dozen cases against suspected Britons, often months ago, appeared still bogged down.

Señor José Barrionuevo, the Interior Minister, yesterday began a visit to Spain's enclaves on the North African coast, where the attempted application of the aliens law has caused the biggest headaches. There have been disturbances in Melilla, where only 7,000 local Muslims among an estimated 27,000 population have Spanish nationality.

So far only 40,000 foreigners have registered as the law requires. In one important Mediterranean coast region, foreigners anxious to be on the right side of the law were told by the police that no registration forms had arrived.

The Spanish Ombudsman has taken up some of the new law's provisions before the Constitutional Court.

Bulgaria responds to Soviet critics

By Roger Boyes, East Europe Correspondent

Bulgaria today convenes a Communist Party Congress that will try to answer some of the Soviet Union's sharp complaints about the way that Sofia is running the economy.

It follows a radical shake-up of the state administration, the shifting of the Prime Minister, the sacking of several of his colleagues, and the abolition of five important economic ministries.

Eastern Europe is holding its five-yearly Communist congresses in the wake of the Soviet session which charged Mr Gorbachov's economic and political course and held a barrage of criticism of the Brezhnev era.

The Bulgarian leader, Mr Todor Zhivkov, was ranked as the closest friend in the Soviet bloc of Leonid Brezhnev and has been particularly sensitive to grumbling by Moscow, expressed with unusual candour by the Soviet Ambassador to Sofia, about the quality of Bulgarian goods exported to the Soviet Union and the time spent by farmers on their private plots.

A recent reshuffle was supposed to head off further criticism. Above all, it was designed to show that the main fault of the Bulgarians was in the implementation of economic policies - for which the Government is responsible - and not in the overall programme as defined by the party leadership.

Although Mr Zhivkov is 74 and evidently tired, it seems unlikely that he will step down at the congress: some Western analysts suggest that he will do so at a plenary session of the Central Committee at the end of the year.

The changes, late last month, gave some clues as to the emerging leadership generation.

Mr Grisha Filipov has been shifted from the premiership to the Central Committee Secretariat. At 66, and with

long experience in the state and party administration, he is a strong candidate for the succession to the leadership. But the men who are really on the rise are in the Gorbachov generation or even younger.

Mr Georgi Atanasov, the new Prime Minister, is 53. He has a strong scientific background and is thus well equipped to run the "scientific and technical revolution" in the Bulgarian economy. This is the phrase used throughout the bloc for the new programmes of modernizing the economy, narrowing the technological gap between East and West, and making East European products more competitive with those produced in the West.

The Bulgarian Parliament has now confirmed 44-year-old Mr Stoyan Markov, head of the State Committee of Science and Technology, as First Deputy Prime Minister, and he will be in charge of the broad field of "innovation". The reshuffle, and this week's congress, reveal above all a sensitivity to the needs of Moscow.

The Soviet Union, which supplies almost all of the energy needs of Bulgaria, has been unhappy for some years about the quality of goods it gets in return. Those areas most under attack - mechanical engineering, the chemical industry, energy, communications and metallurgy - have found their ministries simply abolished. It is out altogether clear what structure will replace them.

The trend throughout the Soviet bloc, taking the tune from Moscow, is to make the Communist Party into a more effective control organ of the government. That means making a clear separation between party and government, but the real leadership stars of the future are men who can master both party and government work.

Sofia's victims listed

Amnesty International has the names of more than 100 ethnic Turks allegedly killed by the Bulgarian security authorities during a campaign to force them to take Slav names. The human rights organization says in a report published today. (Our Foreign Staff writes).

Some were said to have died while protesting peacefully against the campaign, others when offering violent resistance.

Deaths were also reported among police and troops. Eight were said to have been killed after surrounding a village on December 28, 1984, soon after the four-month-long campaign started.

Amnesty said it had received many reports of ethnic Turks being released from detention only after accepting new names for themselves or their families, and of people being resettled forcibly away from their home areas.

It was still not completely clear why the authorities had moved against a minority estimated at no more than 10 per cent of a total Bulgarian population of nine million.

But Amnesty points out that the ethnic Turks have a much higher birth rate than the majority Slavs.

(Bulgaria: Imprisonment of Ethnic Turks. Amnesty International, 5 Roberts Place, London EC1R 0EF. £2.50 post free.)

Youth shot as protests grip Santiago

Santiago (Reuter) - A masked youth was shot in the leg and a CBS cameraman hit on the head by a tear gas grenade yesterday, during demonstrations in Chile marking the first anniversary of a death squad murder.

Police said 15 people were arrested and later released during the disturbances.

Witnesses said the CBS cameraman, Señor Leopoldo Correa, was struck by a tear gas grenade fired from about 25 yards as a group of journalists protested at the arrest of a colleague. He received stitches.

Cabinet offers resignation to help Uruguay

Montevideo (AP) - The 11 members of the Cabinet offered to resign to allow President Sanguinetti to put into effect a plan to reactivate the economy and strengthen the new democracy in Uruguay.

The action came after news that agreement had been reached between political groups on a three-year plan to revive the economy and streamline administration.

The Cabinet members sent a note to Señor Sanguinetti saying they would abandon their posts to give the President "freedom of action to resolve political questions".

TEST YOUR POWERS OF INDIFFERENCE.

- How many households in the United Kingdom are an old person living alone? I in 30 I in 13 I in 10 I in 7
- How many old people have no living relatives? 50,000 100,000 300,000 500,000
- How many old people have no regular visitors? 200,000 450,000 750,000 1,000,000
- How many old people cannot get in and out of bed unaided? 20,000 34,000 70,000 189,000 500,000
- How many old people died in their homes from the cold in 1985? 200 571 1,000 10,512 100,000
- Britain has 1.1 million dwellings statutorily defined as unfit for human habitation. How many are inhabited by old people? 50,000 150,000 250,000 350,000 500,000
- How old was:
 - Winston Churchill when he first became Prime Minister?
 - Michelangelo when he started work on the Sistine Chapel?
- How many centenarians received congratulatory telegrams from the Queen a) in 1965? b) in 1985?
- How many old people depend upon Supplementary Benefit? 1/2 million 1 million 2 million 3 million 4 million 5 million
- What are we doing about it?

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Hindu-Sikh fighting flares

Governor of Punjab replaced as Delhi tries to stem violence

Delhi (Reuters, AP) - The Governor of the violence-racked Punjab state was replaced yesterday by a veteran politician as the central Government tried to restore order.

Sources in the Punjab capital of Chandigarh said Mr Shankar Dyal Sharma, in office only three months, was replaced by Mr Sidarth Shankar Ray, a lawyer, former MP and Chief Minister of West Bengal from 1972 to 1977.

Mr Ray, aged 65, has not been actively involved in politics during the 1980s.

Meanwhile, police shot dead two Sikh extremists in Punjab, and a general strike began in Delhi to protest at terrorist killings in the northern state.

The two men were killed in a gunfight with police near Harke Pattan village, about 30 miles south of the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, state authorities said.

Hindu-Sikh violence flared in nearby Batala when a curfew was relaxed to allow people to buy provisions.

Police said Sikh militants threw stones at Hindu-owned shops and houses during a demonstration against the beating of a Sikh youth.

Paramilitary troops moved in and the curfew was imposed again.

The Sikhs dispersed after police said they would file assault charges against three Hindus who beat the Sikh youth. But about 400 Hindu women defied the curfew and staged a sit-in outside the police station to demand the three be released.

Batala has been under curfew for more than two weeks. Last week security forces broke a five-day siege of public buildings and cut off food and milk to the Hindu-dominated industrial town.

In Delhi yesterday thousands of people heeded a call by opposition parties and moderate Sikh groups for a strike to protest at the violence in Punjab.

Main markets, wholesale trading centres and the stock exchange were closed, and there was less traffic, although public transport was not affected.

The replacement of the Punjab governor yesterday was the second time in three days that a top official in the state had been moved.

On Saturday the Chief Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, announced the replacement of the state's police chief by the country's most respected law enforcer, Mr Julius Ribeiro, former police chief of Bombay.

The violence threatened the stability of Mr Barnala's moderate Sikh-dominated government and has put pressure on him and the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, to restore order to the prosperous state.

At least 104 people were killed last month in Punjab in sectarian violence involving the minority Hindu community, prompting the central Government to flood the state with police reinforcements.

Anti-terror expert Mr Ray, the new governor, had experience in dealing with left-wing terrorists, the Naxalites, when he was Chief Minister of West Bengal (Kuldip Nayyar writes).

His predecessor, Mr Dyalal, has been given the governorship of Maharashtra, a bigger state, though it is clear he has been removed for not being effective.

Rebels say they killed two Soviet advisers

Bangkok (AFP) - Khmer Rouge guerrillas yesterday claimed to have killed two Soviet advisers, 72 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded a further 115 Vietnamese in an attack on a Cambodian town.

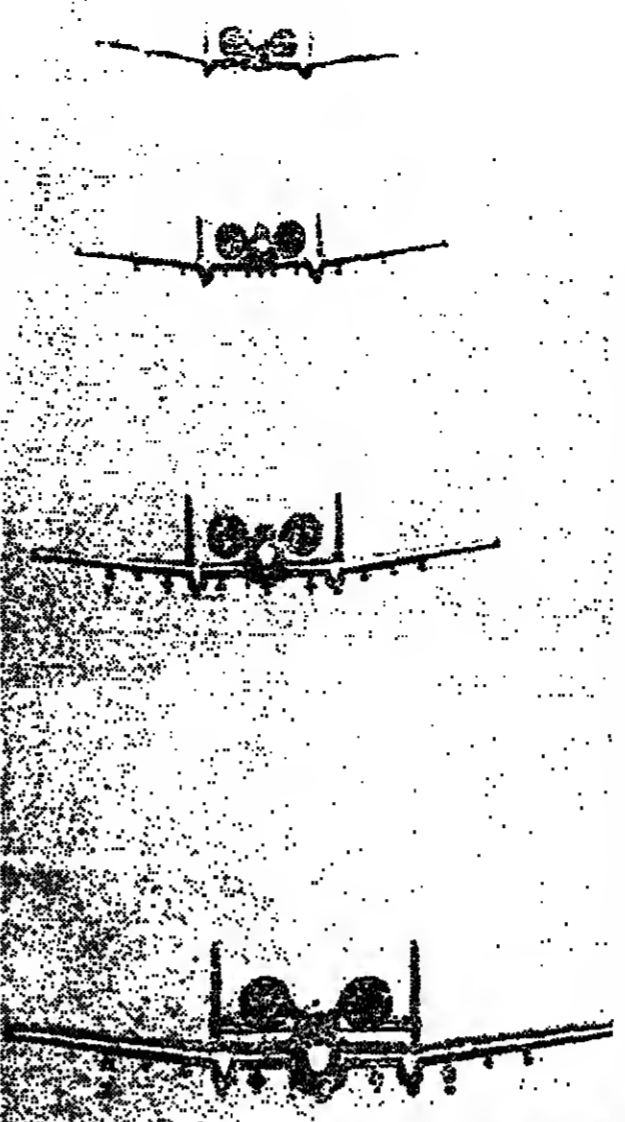
The rebel radio station, in a report monitored here, said that the attack was launched on Friday against Battambang, the largest town in western Cambodia, about 180 miles north-west of Phnom Penh and 45 miles from the Thai border.

One prisoner was taken, according to the Peking-backed Communist faction of the tripartite Cambodian resistance movement. The report indicated that it was one of the biggest offensives yet claimed by the Khmer Rouge.

The guerrillas said they attacked Vietnamese camps defending the town, destroying military equipment, including three tanks.

Khmer Rouge radio also reported attacks on the town of Manang in the south-west of the country and a Vietnamese army base in the eastern province of Kompong Cham.

Rebels also claimed to have killed 52 Vietnamese and wounded 47 last week in an attack on a Vietnamese military convoy in the central province of Kompong Chhnang.



US Air Force A10 Thunderbolts fly over South Korea during joint military exercises between the two countries.

Weinberger gives security pledge to South Koreans

From Our Own Correspondent, Seoul

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, yesterday said the security of South Korea was pivotal to the peace and stability of north-east Asia.

Arriving at Seoul's Kimpo airport for the eighteenth annual Korean-American Security Consultative Meeting, he said communists North Korea had reorganized its forces "to move them closer to the demilitarized zone and has obtained more sophisticated equipment from the Soviet Union".

The Defence Secretary, who will visit the demilitarized zone, said the relationship between the US and South Korea was "constantly changing and maturing, as is the threat we face from the North."

"The security of Korea is pivotal to the peace and stability of north-east Asia, and that in turn is vital to the security of the United States."

He said he understood South Korea was increasingly concerned about a threat from the North during the run-up to the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul.

"I know that the security of those events is of major concern to your Government during the 1986-88 period," he said to his host, Mr Lee Ki

Back, the South Korean Defence Minister.

"I want to assure you that we will do all we can to assist you in ensuring their safety".

It is believed the Koreans will request better early warning systems from Mr Weinberger and will raise the ticklish subject of the more than 80 Hughes 500 anti-tank helicopters illegally exported to the North by a Californian firm last year.

Meanwhile, the US House of Representatives sub-committee on Asian and Pacific affairs is preparing for a series of hearings on South Korea later this month.

Mr Stephen Solarz, chairman of the sub-committee which revealed many aspects of President Marcos's corruption and hidden wealth, both prior to his downfall and since his escape to Honolulu, said he saw the Korean situation as the natural next focus for his committee.

"We'll be looking at the extent to which Korea could become the next Philippines, the potential for instability, the extent to which the United States should get involved in the drive for democracy and whether or not we should encourage direct election of the President," Mr Solarz said.

Sir Geoffrey hits the tourist trail

From Michael Hamlyn, Agra

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, came face to face yesterday with two widely different aspects of India: the magnificence of the Taj Mahal and the poverty of a village of Untouchables.

Before embarking on a series of meetings in Delhi, including a call on Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey flew in his RAF VC10 120 miles south of the capital to the Mogal city of Agra for a little sightseeing.

There he posed like any tourist for his wife's camera in front of the white marble mausoleum built for Emperor Shah Jahan's favourite wife, Mumtaz.

Occasionally some tourists feel let down by the Taj, but not the Howes. "Like Chartres cathedral, it lives up to expectations," Sir Geoffrey told me as we sheltered under a mango tree from the rising morning heat and sipped soft drinks. "The scale, which you don't appreciate from the photographs, and the texture make it better than you expect."

Lady Howe caused a moment of panic among the assembled officials when she realized she had abandoned her handbag while she took her husband's photograph, and a minion was dispatched to retrieve it. It was returned to her, something unlikely to happen to other tourists in similar circumstances.

"I had to give the man who found it a kiss," said the burly official who brought it back to her, dangling it from a limp wrist.

After a speedy trip round the mausoleum, the Foreign Secretary was driven eight miles into the Uttar Pradesh countryside to the village of Chauhatna, where the state government proudly showed

off a village development scheme.

Chauhatna had been cleaned up for the occasion, and lime had been spread at the side of the roads to kill the snakes.

Sir Geoffrey was shown a new concrete house built for an Untouchable family with a 6,000 rupee (£350) loan.

While he was being shown the freshly whitewashed houses, a group of Untouchable women - they are on the lowest rung of all in Indian society and are generally referred to as Harijans, or People of God, the name given them by Mahatma Gandhi - peeped from the rooftops, their faces shrouded in their saris as they watched the menfolk pursue the visitors with trumpet and drum.

Sir Geoffrey was asked to lay the foundation stone of a soon-to-be-built community centre. The stone declared that the inauguration had been carried out by "The Honourable Sir Geoffrey".

A yellow turban was put on his head and a black, or welcome mark of tameric and a red powder called kumkum, was placed on his forehead. Pandit Jodhar, the village Brahmin priest, invoked blessings on "Sir Geoffrey" and the stone.

"It is a great honour for me," said Sir Geoffrey, before the pandit interrupted him again with another round of intoning. The pandit was hushed by state officials, and Sir Geoffrey continued, his turban nodding.

LA plague of deadly new heroin

Los Angeles - A cheap but often deadly form of heroin is being smuggled over the Mexican border into the United States, according to Los Angeles police (Ivor Davis writes).

Narcotics investigators say the illegal drug, known as "tar" or "black tar" because of its colour and texture, has tripled the number of heroin overdose deaths in Los Angeles in the past few years.

Heroin-related emergencies jumped from 1,833 in 1984 to 2,778 last year.

They say that the tar is processed from opium poppy crops by farmers in northern Mexican states and smuggled into the US, mostly by illegal aliens and migrant workers.

It is readily available in some 27 US states and especially in Mexican-American communities. What makes the spread of the often-lethal drug so alarming is its cheapness. A chip the size of a matchstick head costs from \$20 to \$30 (about £13 to £20) and provides up to eight doses.

were set up to take advantage of reduced state control over the economy. It was said the children of several leading officials were involved.

The newspaper quoted an official announcement as saying state and party agencies were permitted to run laundries, barber shops, bath houses and other services as long as they were purely for the welfare of their employees.

DeLorean ranch goes to lawyer

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles

Mr Howard Weitzman, a Los Angeles lawyer, has become the owner of the \$2.5 million (£1.7 million) estate of his client, Mr John DeLorean.

Judge Lawrence Irving approved the transfer of the San Diego property as part of the massive legal fees for Mr Weitzman's successful 1984 defence of Mr DeLorean on criminal charges of trafficking in \$24 million of cocaine.

Judge Irving ruled that the fees were reasonable.

Mr Weitzman is also defending the designer of the Belfast-made DeLorean sports car on charges of defrauding his DeLorean Motor Company investors of \$18 million.

In approving the transfer of the 48-acre ranch home of Mr DeLorean and his former wife, Cristina, Judge Irving said Mr Weitzman had "pulled off the legal miracle of the century" in winning acquittal for Mr DeLorean.

'Briefcase' firms shut

TEST YOUR POWERS OF COMMITMENT.

(Answers to page seven)

- 1. One household in seven in the UK is an old person living alone. Help the Aged funds day centres throughout the country. For many old people, day centres are their only chance of companionship.
2. Nearly half a million old people have no living relatives. Help the Aged is aiming to place one minibus every week with voluntary groups. For no less than 20,000 old people who already use this service every week, it is a vital link with the community.
3. One million old people have no regular visitors. Help the Aged's Lifeline Appeal has already placed nearly 1,000 emergency alarm systems in the homes of old people who are vulnerable and at risk.
4. 189,000 old people cannot get in and out of bed unaided. 695,000 can't cope with stairs. 757,000 can't bath or shower without help. 1,056,000 can't walk unassisted. Help the Aged is funding day hospitals where old people can recover their independence and confidence, after illness or injury.
5. Last year, 571 old people died in their homes from hypothermia. This year, the figure will be much higher. Besides campaigning for better heating subsidies and better pensions, the day centres we support provide warmth and a hot meal, for some old people their only regular hot meal.
6. 500,000 dwellings - nearly half of our most appalling housing - is inhabited by old people; who are least able to cope. Help the Aged is campaigning for better housing provision for old people, both in the public and private sectors, because old people aren't "them", they're one in five of us.
7. Winston Churchill was 64 when he became Prime Minister. Michelangelo was 71 when he started work on the Sistine Chapel. A reminder that being 60+ can be the beginning, not the end of a lifetime's achievements.
8. In 1965, 448 centenarians received a congratulatory telegram from the Queen. In 1985, the figure was 1,819. Between 1981 and 2001, the number of people aged over 75 will increase from 3.1 million to 4.1 million. More and more of us are going to live to be old. Yet what is in store for us if we let things ride?
9. Nearly two million old people depend upon supplementary benefit. Put another way, that's one in five pensioners.
10. These facts paint a grim picture of what it can mean to be old in Britain today. Help the Aged is dedicated to improving this situation by campaigning for better pensions and heating allowances. Funding Day Centres, Day Hospitals and Hospices. Providing emergency alarm systems and minibuses. To find out more about our work, or if you would like to make a donation, please write to: John Mayo OBE, Director-General, Help the Aged, Freeport, St. James's Walk, London EC1B 1BD.

Help the Aged 25TH ANNIVERSARY APPEAL PATRON: HRH The Princess of Wales.

WEDNESDAY PAGE

'Our relationship has turned round. Sometimes mother calls me Mum'

Jean Wyatt is one of the many married people who are now learning how to live with their elderly parents. Sally Brompton reports

Caring for an ageing mother or father when you have a family of your own is the ultimate test of what is possibly the most complicated of human relationships. Indeed, taking in a widowed and often ailing parent is frequently the biggest and hardest decision in many couples' married lives. And it can be as much of a problem for the parents, forced to adjust to their own loss of independence and the inevitable role reversal. When married women give up work to care for disabled parents, the European Commission believes they should get an invalid care allowance, as married men already do. But the commission's decision merely highlights one aspect of the problem. "Money can buy a respite but it can't ease a difficult relationship," says Jill Pitkeathley, newly-appointed director of the National Council for Carers and their Elderly Dependents. "Most married couples who decide to care for an ageing parent have no idea of the kind of stresses it is going to put on their own relationship. Apart from the sheer physical and practical strain, there is also the emotional strain of having to look after your querulous and demanding mother, as well as keeping a good relationship going

with your husband and maybe your teenage children. The competition for carers' time is tremendous. The main difficulty confronting the children of the elderly is that acceptable alternatives to looking after them themselves are few and expensive. Most people are reluctant to institutionalize parents and, in fact, only 5 per cent of Britain's elderly are currently in institutions. Granny flats can offer a satisfactory solution to those who can afford them. Sheltered housing is also growing popular - both private and local authority funded - providing the privacy of individual apartments with shared communal facilities, alarm systems and resident wardens. Barratt, whose 11 retirement developments offer one and two-bedroom apartments ranging in price from £26,000 to £70,000, say they are selling well. "Jill Pitkeathley believes that the Government should put considerably more money into caring for the elderly in the community. "We need more district nurses, more voluntary services and more respite care where dependants can be taken into a hospital or community ward for a fortnight to give the carer a rest from them", she says. Even so, she admits that for every one disastrous case, "you can find eight or nine successes". Clare Pryor always vowed that whatever happened she would never live with her daughter, Jean. When she was forced to do so six years ago, following the death of her son with whom she lived, it caused traumas all round. "I hadn't wanted her to come and she didn't want to be here and initially it was a big battle", admits Jean Wyatt. "It took us both quite a while to accept it." Now 88 and suffering from Parkinson's disease, Clare Pryor, widowed as the result of World War I, can do nothing for herself and needs 24-hour care. For the past six years her daughter, married to John, a United Reformed Church minister has devoted herself to providing that care. "I'd already given up my job as a school secretary", says Jean, who has four

grown-up children. "I had no high-powered career to sacrifice. Now this is my job. I'm a carer. I get a £20-a-week attendance allowance. This is my life." To begin with, however, it was not so clear-cut. Jean had many outside interests - "I was out most of the time", she recalls, "and when mother came it was a completely different life. She kept saying 'you're keeping me a prisoner' and I wanted to say 'you're keeping me a prisoner'." For the first nine months, Jean never left the house apart from a swift weekly visit to the local supermarket. Money was not a problem because, as well as the proceeds from her house, her mother had her widow's pension and her son's pension. "It took me a long time to understand that I could spend my mother's money on nursing", says Jean. She now pays an agency nurse to come in every evening to put her mother to bed, the district nurse gets her up and washes her every morning, the NHS's incontinence service delivers and collects "disposable everything" once a week and Jean allows herself the occasional afternoon off. "Our relationship has turned round. I'm the boss in this house. Sometimes my mother calls me 'Mum'." When Andrew White's mother moved in with him, his wife Pat and their three children aged 22, nine and seven, it was inevitable that clashes would occur. Kay White was - and still is - an active, outspoken and independent widow with a strong mind of her own and a Victorian outlook on life. Pat, now 42, is an easy-going modern-minded mother, determined not to be overpowered in her own home. That was eight years ago. Today the family agrees that, despite the initial problems, things have more or less worked out. Kay White, now 80, has her own flat in the Dublin bungalow from which Andrew runs his egg packaging and distributing business. She



Full house: John Wyatt with his wife Jean (right) and her mother Clare Pryor

cats all her meals with the family but insists that she does not interfere in their lives. "But what she calls interfering and what we call interfering are two different things", says Andrew ruefully. To begin with there were what Pat describes as "the usual problems - little things that turn into big things". She found herself continually having to keep the peace between her mother-in-law and her children. Things are better now. Pat also got used to her mother-in-law telling her how things should be done. "I'm not the sort of person who jumps up after a meal and washes the dishes immediately", says Pat. "She is." She finds it harder to accept the way Kay fusses over Andrew - especially after he and Pat have had a row. Andrew agrees. "She still treats me very much like a little boy and it gets on my nerves." Pat finds that she and her mother-in-law get on better when Andrew is away. Unable to leave Kay alone in the house, Pat and Andrew last year took separate holidays - Pat in Spain with her sister, Andrew in London with his son. "There's a definite strain attached to her living with us", says Pat. "You're very conscious of the fact that she is there all the time. We didn't really think about the reality of it beforehand and if we had I don't think we would have gone ahead." It was Keith Ramsbottom's idea to invite his father-in-law, Wilfred

Janes, to live with him and his wife, Anne. "I don't think I would have dared to suggest it myself", Anne admits. "It isn't easy to do if it's your parent." Her mother had died six months earlier and it was obvious to Keith and Anne, both in their early 50s, that her father would not be able to cope on his own despite being in reasonably good health; his Parkinson's disease, arthritis and cataracts are all mild. Their own house was not large enough to allow them all sufficient independence, so they changed it for a three-bedroomed bungalow near Stratford-upon-Avon with a four-car garage which they converted into a self-contained flat for less than £20,000. "I think we are very very lucky", agrees Anne, whose husband runs his own small printing business. "It works well because father can be separate without being isolated. And he's very good if we have any expenses - he always insists on paying his share."

Now 87, Wilfred spends his days pottering around his new home with its own patio. He prepares his own breakfast and lunch, operates his own washing machine and grows tomatoes and runner beans. His daughter does his shopping and takes him a cooked meal every evening and on Sundays he joins Anne and Keith, who have two married children, for lunch.

An only daughter, Elsie Evans was delighted when her husband Ronald first suggested that her mother, who is now almost 93, should move closer to them after she was widowed five years ago. After four years sharing their four-bedroomed house in Winchmore Hill, north London, neither Elsie nor Ronald would claim that it has been anything other than a disaster. "The worst thing is the lack of freedom", says Elsie, who is 65. "She hates us going out and always wants to know what time we'll be back. It's just like being a child again. "We can't go and stay with our friends because we can't leave her alone. Every time we go away we have to put her in an old people's home which costs more than £200 a week." The fact that Ronald is due to retire from his job as a chartered quantity surveyor later this year worries them both. "I don't know what will happen then", Elsie says. "It's a question of loyalties", says Ronald. "To me she's a mother-in-law but to Elsie she's a mother and sometimes I feel they're like two peas in a pod. It would be all right if she would hang about in her own room but you can't expect her to do that and everywhere I go I trip over her. "We've got to get the NHS to help us to get some facility arranged to get her out of the house. Otherwise I could be dead before she is."

TALKBACK

No hard graft

From Mrs Kathy Ridges, Vale Road, Battle, East Sussex Your series "Like mother, like daughter" (Spectrum, March 25) brings to mind some curious twists. To be fair, the women's liberation movement, when it was going, always claimed that women's liberation was men's liberation too. The daydream of Ms Alice Scott, "I had this really romantic picture of me sitting in a big garden and my husband coming home from work..." may fall upon liberated male ears; he might suggest she does the grafting while he sits in the garden.

From Maureen Green, Rosendale Road, Dulwich, London SE21 Bel Mooney's repetition of the alarmist and inaccurate notion that "poor mothers mean violent and disruptive boy children" is unfortunate. Research backs folk wisdom in suggesting it is poor fathers who impede the growth towards social cooperation of their sons. The decline of the father role which I outlined in Goodbye Father (Routledge) has produced a situation where just under two million children live in one-parent families and many more in families where father is only a material asset. The problem is self-perpetuating: the poorly fathered have difficulty in working out what a father is for when they come to the experience themselves.

From R. Le Grove, Manor Gardens, Saxmundham, Suffolk Sheila Lady Bernard and Mary C. Smith are both too sweeping in their criticisms of Patricia Clough's "Love Begins at 60" (Friday Page, March 7). If there is a spark of love which can be kept alive by genuine effort, fair enough, but supposing true love was absent from the start? Couples who stay together in a wasteland of existence to see their offspring safely into adulthood have already shown many years of unselfish fortitude and courage. Why condemn them if, when their responsibilities are at last at an end, they try to snatch what little happiness might yet remain to them?

Vertical text on the right margin, likely a page number or index reference.

Royal homes for the favoured few

Inside Britain's palaces, a small, privileged group of tenants are living rent-free by royal consent.



One of Hampton Court's 27 grace and favour apartments (left) and the wing damaged by fire on Monday



Repairs carried out with public funds

Live rent-free, they still have to pay for electricity and heating at normal rates. Grace and favour flats have often been put at the disposal of the royal family's more distant relations, a great many of whom seem to have suffered upheaval and dispossession in their own lands. The Duke of Edinburgh's mother, Princess Alice of Battenberg, banished with her husband from Greece in 1922, took holy orders and lived most of her old age as a virtual recluse in a flat in Buckingham Palace, where she died in 1969, an almost forgotten figure. It is reasonable to assume that prospective tenants have to convince the Queen that they have nowhere else to live, or are in reduced circumstances. Having won the royal favour, they can expect to occupy the apartment for the rest of their lives. There is no rent, and as they are generally parts of royal palaces, which are historic monuments, essential repairs are carried out with public funds from the Department of the Environment's Property Services Agency. In a typical year the agency will spend about £5 million on maintenance of the royal palaces, considerably more if major works are to be carried out. Care of the apartment's interior and any redecoration is normally the responsibility of the occupant, but Buckingham Palace points out discreetly that each tenancy is an individual, private agreement between tenant and monarch.

Advertisement for Victoria Wine of the Month, featuring Liebfraumilch Rheinhesen. It includes a picture of a wine bottle and text describing the wine's quality and price (£1.79 per bottle). The ad is from The Victoria Wine Company.

MARRIOTT HOTELS: AN INTRODUCTORY OFFER.

To introduce you to our European five star hotels, we offer these special rates per night for a double room on Friday, Saturday or Sunday nights (maximum two people per room) until 1st June 1986. As further food for thought, we're offering you special prices in the restaurant too. The introductory offer does not apply to groups and is subject to our having rooms available. Please make advance reservations. AMSTERDAM £55 (inclusive) PARIS £72 (+15% service) LONDON £65 (+15% VAT) For reservations call and ask for 'the Marriott Special Introductory Weekend Rate.' LONDON (01) 439 0281. Marriott HOTELS & RESORTS

THE TIMES DIARY

Batting for Britain

Fearing I suspect, a diplomatic incident... Trade and Industry Minister Geoffrey Pattie and the British High Commissioner in Barbados, Sir Giles Bullard, have become involved in the Graham Gooch apartheid controversy.

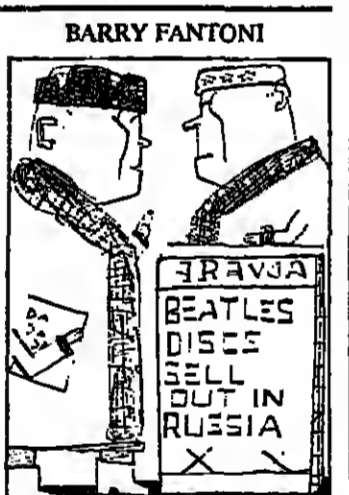
Riding high

Now that the General Motors deal is off, the Land Rover-sponsored Captain Mark Phillips will be seen in the embankment of a race round a begging bowl at the Badminton horse trials next week.

Extract from the Hungarian visa application form: 'Name... First name... Maiden name... Occupation... For important information see backside.'

Exclusive

'It has been my ambition', writes Donald Flory, 'since I started the St George's Church, Cambridge, parish newspaper 23 years ago, to have a mention in the Times Diary.'



'It's taken 100 years, comrade, but we've finally caught up'

Self-help

Liberals in Liverpool are spitting blood over a stall that has appeared on successive Saturdays in the city centre appealing for donations to help Labour councillors take their case against surcharge to the House of Lords.

Not so free

Boyd Black, the Democratic Rights for Northern Ireland candidate, has been accused of causing great 'embarrassment' to the Labour-affiliated Fabian Society.

When the jury should be out

A legal expert urges the government to embrace the Roskill proposal on trial by tribunal of complex fraud cases

The City of London's reputation for financial integrity has been seriously damaged by recent scandals. There is widespread public suspicion of more cases of fraud lying undiscovered or unreported.

Here, the committee said, there should no longer be trial by jury. Instead the case should be tried by a special fraud trials tribunal, consisting of a judge and two lay members with business skills and experience of complex transactions.

members of the public, and are governed by rules and conducted in a language learned only after prolonged study by participants.

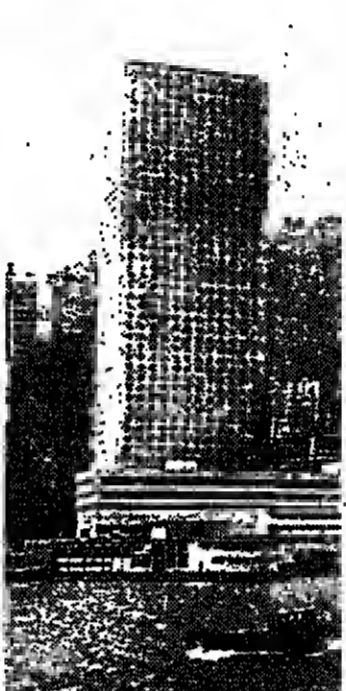
continued existence of a jury trial for particularly complicated fraud cases may actually assist wrongdoers to defeat justice.

Nicholas Ashford on Hong Kong reservations about political reform

Don't rock the sampan

Although it is still 11 years before Hong Kong is returned to China, Peking is increasingly making its presence felt among the territory's 5.5 million people.

Although political reform is still considered desirable so that a democratically based political system can be set up to prepare for Hong Kong's promised 'autonomy', it is now widely accepted that the pace of change must be slow, controlled and, above all, acceptable to Peking.



Pillar of capitalism - more important for many than fledgling democracy

of Hong Kong' and held out the prospect of direct elections to the 56-seat Legislative Council.

In public, most claim to be looking forward to July 1 1997, when Hong Kong becomes a special administrative region of China.

What really matters is whether China will stick to its side of the bargain with Britain that Hong Kong will retain 'a high degree of autonomy' after 1997 and will maintain its existing economic system and way of life for at least the next 50 years.

It is, then a major obstacle will have been overcome, and it is likely that the final version of the law in 1990 will be broadly acceptable to the people of Hong Kong as well as the British authorities.

More recently there has also been a great deal of condemnation, especially from such MPs as Freddy Taylor and Nicholas Fairbairn, of a jury for acquitting a man of murder when it was later revealed he had previously admitted two counts of rape.

China was apprehensive and said so publicly when two senior officials warned of the 'misfortune' and 'chaos' that political reforms might bring.

But China also intends to inherit the island's highly centralized system of government, in which all power is vested in the governor (who will be superseded by a Peking-appointed chief executive).

The 1984 joint declaration was deliberately vague about the structure of future government in Hong Kong. However, a government white paper in November of that year promised to develop a system of 'representative government at the central level which is more directly accountable to the people

education system and in 1984-85 52 per cent of all financial aid to students was in the form of loans, with work-study opportunities providing 4 per cent.

Maureen Woodhall contrasts British grants with the long-term financing abroad

Try banking on student loans

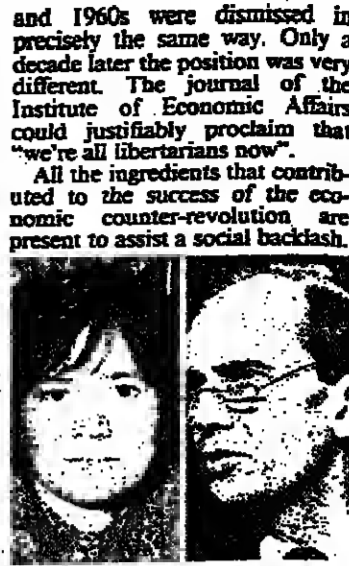
they are interest-free. Loans are repayable over 10 years in the US and 20 years in Sweden and Germany.

Sweden students from low-income families are not deterred. They know that if they are unemployed or their earnings fall below a minimum level they can postpone repayment, at 8 per cent of loan graduates did in 1984-85.

The NUS questions whether there would be any savings, arguing that loans would be expensive to administer, with a high likelihood of default. In the US, however, the National Commission on Student Financial Assistance, which reviewed the GSL programme in 1983, found that loans are far more cost-effective than grants, because every dollar spent by the federal government generates at least two dollars of financial aid to students.

Danny Finkelstein Beating off the backlash

Norman Tebbit is not a consensus politician. Ignoring the pleas of more restrained colleagues, he considers the framing and delivery of gratuitous insults to be an intellectual challenge.



Clare Short and Norman Tebbit: unlikely allies in a crusade against permissiveness

As with economic affairs in the 1970s there is a widespread perception of crisis, with rising crime rates and lurid accounts of sexual violence in every daily newspaper.

More recently there has also been a great deal of condemnation, especially from such MPs as Freddy Taylor and Nicholas Fairbairn, of a jury for acquitting a man of murder when it was later revealed he had previously admitted two counts of rape.

Similarly, as with economic affairs in the 1970s, there is no clearly articulated alternative to the policies of the backlash, with many, like Germaine Greer, who strongly supported the reforms of the 1960s, now deeply anxious about their consequences.

At a time of confusion and fear people will always look for solutions that provide apparent certainty and security. Social liberals must ensure that these solutions are found in a free and progressive society and not in the policies of censorship and reaction.

moreover... Miles Kingston

On top of the world only

I first met Hamish McBarber at a No 52 bus stop in Notting Hill. He is the only real explorer I have ever come across, though of course I didn't know that to begin with.

design. I could hear Radio 3 in every breakfast room. I said: 'You can't get to the North Pole on public transport.'

THE ARTS

Television
A human drama at its most genuine

Standing Up for Joe (BBC) was the story of a five-year-old boy whose cerebral palsy had apparently confined him to a half-life without hope...

Ariane Mnouchkine (right), whose adaptation of Klaus Mann's Mephisto opens at the Barbican tomorrow, is a theatrical legend for her piercing vision and radical individuality...

An artist's response to guilt and complicity

I first met Ariane Mnouchkine in 1971 during the run of her production of 1789 at the Rondhouse... She is a theatrical legend for her piercing vision and radical individuality...



Cartoucherie, but it was structured to be more contradictory and painful; more true. We began to grow up... She says, 'I do', she replies, and defines it as an attachment to the principles she set out with...

Concerts
Return of irony

'Boulez is back!' screamed the New York Philharmonic's announcers. Well, he was back, briefly, and with a vengeance... James R. Oestrich

Gabrieli Quartet
Wigmore Hall

String quartets and solo violinists rarely work together. Perhaps the touch of 'artistic temperament' traditionally associated with the great quartet leader is also liable to reoccur...

Pope/Rendall
Wigmore Hall

David Rendall, currently a dashing Matteo in Covent Garden's Arabella, found himself on Sunday with Faust, Rodolfo, Nemorino and Alfredo on his hands as well...

Hilary Finch

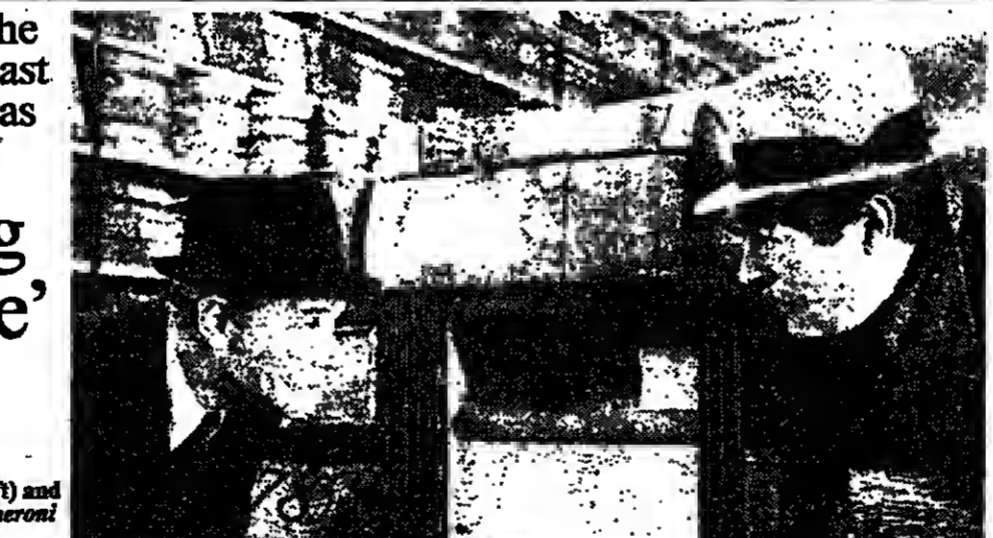
Handled nicely, though, the stage-managing of his duets with Cathryn Pope: Traviata's 'Brindisi' begged an encore...



Nostalgia and a taste for the home-grown are not the least qualities of the Viennale, as David Robinson reports

Remembering the 'old empire'

Endearing knockabout surrealism with the papier maché of Katiyahoni... Forty years on: Jack Lemmon (left) and Marcello Mastroianni in Maccheroni



A first film by Wolfram Paulus, Heidenlocher (Hideout) has won a certain critical prestige and was the Austrian entry at the Berlin Festival last month...

Advertisement for David Morris Jewellery, featuring a Rolex watch and text: 'WE ARE NOW ABLE TO OFFER INTEREST FREE CREDIT ON ALL WATCHES...'

Advertisement for Royal Opera House, featuring text: 'Giacchino Rossini's SEMIRAMIDE Concert performances Conductor Henry Lewis...'

Advertisement for 'IF YOU WANT TO GET AHEAD GET THE TIMES' featuring text: 'GENERAL APPOINTMENTS THURSDAY MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR COPY OF THE TIMES...'

Advertisement for Hilary Finch, featuring text: 'Handled nicely, though, the stage-managing of his duets with Cathryn Pope...'

WALL STREET

Share prices turned mixed on Monday after reaching record levels earlier in the day. Trading was subdued after the holiday, despite hopes of a further cut in interest rates. The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 3.11 points at 1,818.61, after last Thursday's record.

Table of share prices for various companies including AMR, ASA, Allied Signal, etc.

COMPANY NEWS
JAMES DICKIE & COMPANY: A final dividend of 2.2p (0.3p), making a total of 1.25p (0.5p) is payable for the year to October 31, 1985. With figures in £000, turnover was 1,600, turnover was 5,167 (4,261), pretax profit 51 and attributable profit 69 (36). Earnings per share were 3.7p (1.95p).

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES
Market rates day's range
April 1
April 2

Notes supplied by Barclays Bank HOPEX and Exch. - Lloyds Bank International

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %
Dollar call 7 1/2-8
3 months 7 1/2-8

GOLD
Gold \$328.00-329.00
Kruggerand (per cent) \$330.00-331.50

ECGD
Fixed Rate Starting Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period February 5 1986 to March 4 1986 inclusive: 12.664 per cent.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of financial futures including Three Month Sterling, US Treasury Bond, etc.

The pound improved from early lows yesterday and the dollar slipped in very quiet trading, although starting weaker on the overnight level against the dollar. The pound also closed above the mark, sterling managed to remain relatively steady despite oil fears as it is still underpinned by the level of British interest rates, according to observers.

OTHER STERLING RATES
Argentina austral 1,1724-1,1747
Australia dollar 2,0325-2,0358

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE, LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION, etc.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS
Table listing various investment trusts and their performance.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS
Table listing financial trusts and their performance.



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In our book a copier that's always out of order, is definitely out of order. Which is why you will find our range more reliable than most. Our paper paths are short and straight. So our copiers have an appetite for work, not paper. And our liquid crystal display is one feature other copiers have had to copy. It can stop operator errors turning into problems by giving you all the information you need to keep in control. So if you want to start seeing less of your copier mechanic, we suggest you see more of our range.

Form with fields for Name, Position, Company, Address, Postcode, Tel No.

TOSHIBA
Toshiba Information Systems (UK) Ltd, International House, Windmill Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 7HR. Tel: 0932 785666.

TEMPUS

Atlantic cuts down its reliance on IBM

Doing business with IBM can be a mixed blessing. Atlantic Computers, which yesterday announced profits of £17.1 million before tax, up from £10.5 million, has clearly benefited from the connection in the past. Over half of last year's profit came from IBM-related business, specifically the supply of IBM computer systems on long leases.

But, while the temperature has risen, Newman Tonks shares have stuck at around 139p, 11p below the value of the shares-plus-cash offer and comfortably above the 134p cash alternative.

At this level Newman Tonks is seeking to assure shareholders that the increase in the share price - it was 98p before the offer - represents a genuine re-rating. In an unusual move, the joint brokers to the company, Fielding Newson-Smith and Albert E Sharp, have written to shareholders, claiming that the share price should not fall if the offer is rejected.

Atlantic claims that the effect of the current round of IBM price cuts is marginal, but in the long term they must tend to make customers increasingly reluctant to take up long leases from Atlantic when there is a likelihood that by the end of the lease prices on the open market will have fallen significantly.

This means that progress in the future could be slower. This year will not have the benefit of 12 orders for large computer systems based on the new IBM S/36 computer, as did last year. There will, however, be growth overseas following the start of an American operation and an increased contribution from the newly acquired British distributor to Digital Equipment Corporation.

On the forecast 25 per cent increase in pretax profits for the year to October, Newman Tonks is selling on 11.6 times prospective earnings. After an uninspiring dividend record over the past few years - albeit partly because Newman Tonks never cut its dividend during the difficult early 80s - shareholders have been promised a 30 per cent increase, which means a yield of more than 7 per cent. With the full benefits of last year's Cartwright acquisition still to come, 1987 profits of around £10 million would push the p/e below 10.

Increasing diversification makes Atlantic less reliant on IBM and reduces the proportion of profits coming from the company's residual interests in leased computers. Last year this fell dramatically from 60 per cent to 12 per cent after provisions, but next year the proportion should rise again to about 25 per cent.

The general trend, however, is towards better quality earnings. With that in mind a multiple of just seven times earnings, assuming profits of £23 million in 1986, with the shares at 295p, looks fair.

McKechnie Bros/ Newman Tonks

The gloves are off at last in the takeover bid by McKechnie Brothers for the Newman Tonks Group. The offer closes on Sunday. A public row about Newman Tonks's American takeover

was followed last week by claims and counterclaims about McKechnie's first-half profits. But, while the temperature has risen, Newman Tonks shares have stuck at around 139p, 11p below the value of the shares-plus-cash offer and comfortably above the 134p cash alternative.

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Financial services gear up for PEPs

By Richard Thomson Banking Correspondent

There are signs that some financial services companies in the City are already gearing up to offer Personal Equity Plans, outlined in the Budget, as soon as the scheme comes into operation in January 1987.

The PEP scheme has been widely criticized as offering insufficient tax incentives to attract investors and has provoked scepticism from financial services companies which doubt they can offer schemes on a profitable basis.

Details of the scheme have yet to be worked out by the Government, but so far the plan is to offer capital gains and investment tax relief on investments within a PEP.

Mr Alan Ainsworth, Fidelity International's marketing director, said yesterday: "We believe we can run schemes on our computer system, which already exists to service our other investment management activities, and make money on PEPs."

Shares climb back over 1,400

After a sluggish start share prices began to climb again yesterday, with the FT 30-share index going back above 1400.

The index rose by 12.2 points to close at 1402.2 and the FT-SE index of 100 shares gained 15.2 at 1684.0.

The backlog of weekend press comment kept speculative investors busy. Trading, however, was fairly light, many dealers apparently extending their holiday break.

Building shares showed some good advances, with Amec up 3p to 267p ahead of results tomorrow. SGB, on press comment, put on 30p to 372p.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns for EQUITIES and RIGHTS ISSUES, listing various stocks and their prices.

Table with columns for EQUITIES and RIGHTS ISSUES, listing various stocks and their prices.

Among the better rises were Burton ahead 14p to 342p, Combined English 5p to 265p and Gus A up 35p to 1022p.

Competition shake-up call for consulting engineers

By Derek Harris Industrial Editor

Consulting engineers serving the construction industry should change their rules to promote greater competition and freer advertising, Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, has urged.



Sir Gordon Borrie: may take further action

His challenge to the Association of Consulting Engineers, one of the leading professional bodies, has come in a wide-ranging report on the advertising and charging rules of professions serving the construction industry.

satisfied about their ability to negotiate acceptable fees although the OFT found this unsurprising given the relative power of most of the client groups involved.

Recommended fee scales put out by the Royal Institute of British Architects and the ACE did not appear to be acting as mandatory scales, said the report. But it added: "Even recommended fee scales can have a restrictive effect on competition."

Tisch may hold key to CBS

From Our Correspondent New York

The takeover saga at CBS took another twist when the \$3.74 billion cash bid by Mr Marvin Davis was rejected by the board, but experts say that the next move may be made by an unlikely savior.

Mr Lawrence Tisch, chairman of the Loews Corporation, is the biggest CBS shareholder, with a 12.3 per cent stake. Wall Street analysts say Mr Tisch holds all the cards so he may be the only person who knows how the saga will end.

COMPANY NEWS

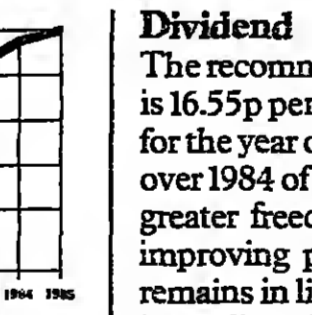
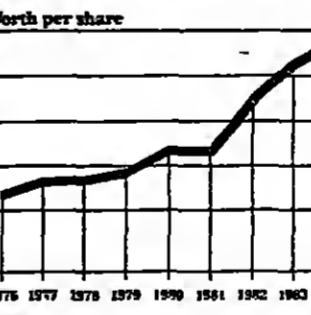
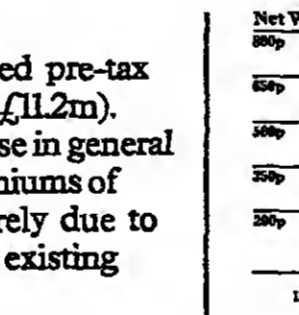
STAFFORDSHIRE POTTERIES (HOLDINGS): Interim dividend 1.33p (1p). With figures in £000, pretax profit for the six months to October 31 was 678 (651). Earnings per share basic 7.7p (6.3), adjusted 5p (4.5).

RAMUS HOLDINGS: Interim dividend 1.5p (same). With figures in £000, profit before tax for half year in January 6 was 108. Profit after tax 133 (109). Earnings per share 3p (2.5).

RUGBY PORTLAND CEMENT: Cockerham Cement final dividend 5.75c (5.25) for 1985. Figures in £000. Trading surplus 15,401 (13,403), less interest 871 (820), depreciation 3,679 (3,792), tax 4,537 (4,118).

1985 Result There was an increased pre-tax profit of £41.4m (1984: £11.2m). The underlying increase in general insurance written premiums of 24% was almost entirely due to much higher prices on existing business.

Positive evidence of recovery shows through



Dividend The recommended final dividend is 16.55p per share, making a total for the year of 25.75p. The increase over 1984 of 8.4% recognises the greater freedom the prospect of improving profits gives us and remains in line with our long standing policy of regularly increasing dividends.

Table titled 'BASE LENDING RATES' listing various banks and their rates.

Investor fuels bid talk

Mr Alan Clore, a London-based investor, has raised his stake in a US pharmaceutical company, fuelling speculation that it may be a potential takeover target.

Life operations

The increase in Royal Life's pre-tax profits was again substantial - up over 22% to £26.4m. Long-term business potential has been further enhanced by the purchase of Lloyd's Life, shortly to be re-named Royal Heritage Life Assurance Ltd.

Net worth

The net worth of the company increased to over £1.9 billion inclusive of the balance sheet value of the existing business of Royal Life and Lloyd's Life of £320m; the directors consider the 'going concern' value of these companies to be at least £600m.

Prospects

With some two thirds of our worldwide general premium income coming from commercial insurance classes we are well placed to take advantage of the sharply improving trading conditions in these classes and to build upon the achievements of the past year.



Royal Insurance plc, Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR

Form for requesting a copy of the Report & Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1985, including fields for Name and Address.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total...

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, % Change, P/E. Lists various stocks under categories like INDUSTRIALS A-D, BREWERIES, BUILDING AND ROADS, etc.

Weekly Dividend. Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Total. Shows weekly dividend trends.

BRITISH FUNDS. High Low Stock Price Change % Change P/E

Table listing various British funds with columns for stock price, change, % change, and P/E ratio.

Table for SHORTS (Under Five Years) and FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS, listing financial instruments and their values.

Table for OVER FIFTEEN YEARS, listing financial instruments and their values.

Table for UNDATED, listing financial instruments and their values.

Table for INDEX-LINKED, listing financial instruments and their values.

Table for BANKS DISCOUNT HP, listing bank discount rates and related figures.

Table for ELECTRICIANS, listing companies like BSC, BPC, etc., with price, change, and P/E.

Table for BUILDING AND ROADS, listing companies like ABN, ABB, etc., with price, change, and P/E.

Table for CHEMICALS, PLASTICS, listing companies like AOC, APC, etc., with price, change, and P/E.

Table for CINEMAS AND TV, listing companies like AAV, AAV, etc., with price, change, and P/E.

Table for DRAPERY AND STORES, listing companies like ABA, ABA, etc., with price, change, and P/E.

Table for ELECTRICIANS, listing companies like ABE, ABE, etc., with price, change, and P/E.

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Equities rally

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end April 11. Contango day April 14. Settlement day, April 21.

Table for E-K, listing various equities with price, change, and P/E.

Table for FINANCE AND LAND, listing various finance and land stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for FOODS, listing various food industry stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for HOTELS AND CATERERS, listing various hotels and caterers stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for INDUSTRIALS A-D, listing various industrial stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for INDUSTRIALS E-K, listing various industrial stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for INDUSTRIALS L-R, listing various industrial stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for INDUSTRIALS S-Z, listing various industrial stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for OVERSEAS TRADERS, listing various overseas trading companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G, listing various paper and printing companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for PROPERTY, listing various property-related stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for SHIPPING, listing various shipping companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for MINING, listing various mining companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for INSURANCE, listing various insurance companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for LEISURE, listing various leisure-related stocks with price, change, and P/E.

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THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 Claims required for +46 points Claimants should ring 0254-53272

Table for OVERSEAS TRADERS, listing various overseas trading companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G, listing various paper and printing companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for PROPERTY, listing various property-related stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for SHIPPING, listing various shipping companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for SHOES AND LEATHER, listing various shoes and leather-related stocks with price, change, and P/E.

Table for TEXTILES, listing various textile companies with price, change, and P/E.

Table for TOBACCO, listing various tobacco companies with price, change, and P/E.

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daily into

Imperial shareholders.

The Form.

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FORM OF ACCEPTANCE, AUTHORITY AND ELECTION
United Biscuits (Holdings) plc Recommended Offer for
Imperial Group public limited company

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 2.
 Acceptance of the Offer is on the terms and subject to the conditions set out in the Offer Document. The provisions of paragraph 8 of Appendix II to the Offer Document are incorporated in and form part of this Form of Acceptance.

TO ACCEPT THE OFFER
COMPLETE BOX 1 and COMPLETE
BOXES 4 AND 5 BELOW

BOX 1
NUMBER OF IMPERIAL ORDINARY SHARES
500

Your signature could enable you to enjoy an income 17.5% greater than that from the highest Hanson offer.

We, the Imperial Board, urgently and unanimously recommend you to reject the unwelcome Hanson bid and accept the United Biscuits' offer without delay.

The UB Offer:

- Is fair and reasonable and represents an excellent deal for Imperial shareholders.
- Delivers a gross income of £24.68 for every 100 Imperial shares: 17.5% better than that from the Hanson alternative with the highest capital value.
- Gives you a valuable investment in a major fast-growing consumer business.

There will be no more offers - from either United Biscuits or Hanson Trust.

So please complete your white UB acceptance form immediately.

United Biscuits' forms must be received by 3:00 pm on Friday, 11th April 1986. This is the final closing date for the UB offer.

This is your last opportunity to help create a great new British consumer company - United Imperial - and benefit from its highly profitable future.



The bases on which the income differential of 17.5% is calculated are as set out in Appendix 1 of Imperial's circular dated 26th March 1986. This advertisement is published by Hambros Bank Ltd. on behalf of Imperial Group plc. The directors of The Imperial Group plc. (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate. The directors accept responsibility accordingly.

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1985 FINAL RESULTS

Swire Pacific Limited

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1985

The profit for 1985 before the extraordinary item was HK\$1,225.9 million, representing an increase of 28.4% as compared with HK\$954.4 million in 1984, as adjusted. In addition, in 1985 there was an extraordinary profit of HK\$59.1 million (1984: nil). The audited consolidated results were:

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1985 HK\$m, 1984 HK\$m. Rows include Turnover, Operating profit, Net operating profit, Profit before taxation, Profit after taxation, etc.

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1985 HK\$m, 1984 HK\$m. Rows include Earnings per share, Dividends per share, Net assets per share.

The profit for 1985 before the extraordinary item increased by 28.4% and additionally there was an extraordinary profit of HK\$59.1 million (1984: nil). During 1985, the Group changed its method of accounting for finance leases...



COMMODITIES REVIEW London exchange adopts new look

London's campaign to reassert its prominence as an international commodity trading centre took a decisive step forward yesterday with the introduction of a new legal and administrative structure for the London Commodity Exchange.

Law Report April 2 1986 Tax relief comes before set-off

Colford (Inspector of Taxes) v Mining & Industrial Holdings Ltd. Before Mr Justice Walton (Judgment given March 14). For the purposes of computing liability to corporation tax, credit for double taxation relief was to be allowed before any set-off for advanced corporation tax (ACT) was made.

Notice to Members and Depositors. WITH EFFECT FROM 1st APRIL, 1986, THE FOLLOWING INTEREST RATES WILL APPLY TO INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS...

Colchester Building Society logo and address: 42-48 NORTH STATION ROAD, COLCHESTER, CO1 1RB

Sentencing dishonest baggage handlers

Regina v Dunsany and Others. Consideration of a sentence of three years' imprisonment should be the starting point when sentencing for persistent pilfering committed by baggage handlers at airports.

Compensation order guidelines

Regina v Scott. Considerations to be borne in mind when making compensation orders were set out by the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice McNeill and Mr Justice Otton) on March 18 in allowing an appeal by Roger Scott against a compensation order imposed on him on August 19, 1981 in Gloucester (Crown Court Judge Hutton) for offences of obtaining property by deception.

Function of the court welfare departments

Scott v Scott. The court welfare department's function in contested custody hearings was to assist the court by investigating the circumstances of the child or children concerned and the important factors in their lives so as to provide the court with factual information on which to make a decision.

Latest prices:

At last some help for the hard pressed Imperial shareholder. Mindful that share prices can vary daily, we are publishing a bulletin showing the value of each of the offers for your company.

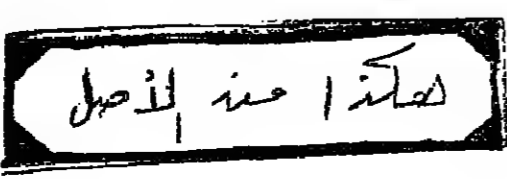
IMPERIAL SHARE PRICE: 349.0p. HANSON BID WORTH: 369.0p. HANSON BID BETTER BY: +20.0p.

HANSON TRUST CONTINUING GROWTH FROM BASIC BUSINESSES. The values of Hanson Trust's offers depend on its share price. The above offer values are for Hanson Trust's Shares and Convertible Shares...

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Form for Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society. Name, Address, Postcode, and contact information.



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Chesterman requires competent PA with good skills and organizational ability...

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We require an experienced, enthusiastic secretary to join our busy, progressive property development company...

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Senior litigation partner in young expanding firm requires quality secretary with administrative skills...

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Over 1.4 million of the country read the classified columns of The Times. The following categories appear regularly every week, and are generally accompanied by relevant editorial articles. Use the coupon (right), and find out how easy, fast and economical it is to advertise in The Times Classified.

PROPERTY BUYERS' GUIDE LONDON PROPERTIES

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Douglas & Gordon. ELM PARK ROAD, CHELSEA, SW3. Large Beautifully decorated flat on two floors, with private street entrance and magnificent 70' south-facing garden. Double living room, dining room, fully equipped kitchen, three beds, two bathrooms, laundry room, plenty of cupboards.

Three houses in a Pilgrim Father's house. Groton Place, Groton, Suffolk, is a Grade II listed manor house of early Tudor origin with later additions including a Georgian facade and entrance hall. Its most famous occupant was John Winthrop, one of the Pilgrim Fathers.

A sporting deal. The opening of the flat season and the prospect of the Grand National this Saturday are timely reminders of the importance of sporting estates and stud farms in the property market. And this mood perhaps the best known Irish estate and stud farm comes on to the market.

Best terms for mortgages. If you need finance for a new home, a second home, school fees, or for home improvements, there's no reason for you to think that our excellent reputation means high costs.

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Harrods ESTATE OFFICES MORTGAGE SERVICES. Residential and Commercial Mortgages. Re-mortgages, Second Homes and School Fees. 9am-8pm weekdays, 10.30am-2.30pm Saturdays and Sundays.

CRAWFORDS. 76 Old Brentford Rd. Kensington SW7. Excellent 1 1/2 bed, low overheads, 90 sq ft. £55,000.

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ASSURED PLACE SW7. Top 2 bed level 2 bed, 2 rec. all bath, 2nd floor. £125,000.

RIVERSIDE HOUSES AT CHISWICK. Choice of 3 town houses. Spacious accommodation of 3/4 bedrooms. Direct river access with 3 acres of private grounds.

W12 EDWARDIAN HOUSE. 3 bedrooms, reception, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, dining room. £73,950.

WIMBLEDON. Superior refurbished 4 bed semi detached Victorian terraced house, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms.

WIMBLEDON. Cover Hill - One of 10 magnificent detached houses in the Wimbeldon area. Fully furnished 4 bedroom house with 2 double bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms.

INSURANCE. HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN. MORTGAGE. BRIDGING LOAN. PERSONAL LOAN. BUDGET ACCOUNT.

ST. STEPHENS WOOD. Fully furnished 4 bedroom house with 2 double bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms.

WIMBLEDON. Superior 4 bedroom detached house, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 reception rooms.

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They're all under one roof at NatWest. So if you're looking for a mortgage, bridging loan, insurance cover, a personal loan or a budget account, why not step into your local NatWest for written details or write to: The Home Loans Manager, National Westminster Bank PLC, Marketing Department, FREEPOST 2, London EC2B 2ED.

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

How the EEC can clean up the trade in Spain

By Diana Wildman

Britons are buying about 25,000 Spanish properties a year, accounting for half the total sales to foreigners. With Spain now a full member of the Common Market, the campaign under way in the European Parliament, led by the Euro MP, Edward McMillan-Scott, to set up a commission to stamp out fraudulent sales of Mediterranean holiday homes, will be welcomed by both potential purchasers and bona fide agents alike.

The growth of what Mr. McMillan-Scott refers to as "backstairs companies" who sell either properties they do not own or "off-plan" homes which they never intend building, might be stamped out if only buyers would seek legal advice on their proposed purchase.

Michael Soule, a City of London solicitor, whose practice specializes in Anglo-Spanish law, makes the point that UK agents selling a British home rarely expect to collect payments in behalf of the vendor.

Buyers can go out to judge for themselves

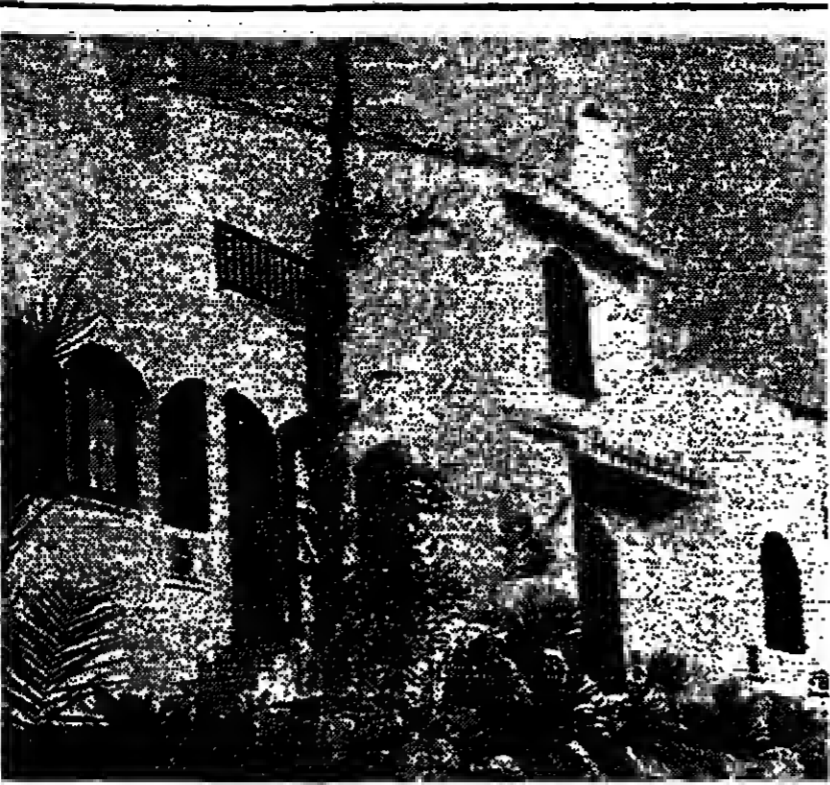
Mr. Soule says: "Here, if they do, agents are required under the Estate Agents Act of 1979 to hold this on a separate clients' account. The Office of Fair Trading can even prohibit agents from continuing to practise if they fail to comply with the requirements of the Act."

However, as yet the Estate Agents Act has no application where the deposit is paid in respect of overseas property. So unless the agents can produce a notarized power of attorney from the developer in Spain they cannot give a valid receipt on his behalf.

"So far, Spanish entry into the EEC has had no impact on the activities of estate agents who sell Spanish property to citizens of other Community countries."

All reputable agents and developers can arrange inspection trips for holiday-home buyers, who can then judge for themselves whether the facilities and properties are of an expected standard.

Anyone visiting the La Manga Club, the 1,400-acre leisure estate in Murcia, a 90-minute drive due south of Alicante airport, could not fail to be impressed, both by the standard of the sporting



Basking in the sun: The Los Altos development at La Manga Club near Alicante in southern Spain comprises small clusters of villas in Andalusian style with private swimming pools, gardens and terraces, all for the exclusive use of the owners facilities and the sheer variety of sport to choose from.

Owned and run by European Ferries plc, this very British estate has two championship 18-hole golf courses, one of which has hosted the Spanish Open five times, with a large clubhouse attached to the four-star Las Mimosas Hotel set in the heart of La Manga.

The redesigned Racquets Club, run under the auspices of David Lloyd, now boasts 17 tennis courts, a mix of hard, clay and grass. Two squash courts, a bowling green and croquet lawn are due to be added soon.

The Costa del Sol is still a magnet for the rich international purchaser, with Las Terrazas de las Lomas del Marbella Club a classic example.

The Costa del Sol is still a magnet for the rich international purchaser, with Las Terrazas de las Lomas del Marbella Club a classic example. Set in the foothills between Puerto Banus and the Marbella Club itself, this bold white apartment block, the first of two to be completed,

boasts vast terracing equal in size to the imposing inland accommodation.

The specifications are high and include marble flooring throughout, including the terraces. Facilities include central heating, air conditioning, fully fitted kitchens, a swimming pool, gardens and underground parking. There is a full management and rental service, plus 24-hour portering.

Out of the 52 apartments in the first block, 19 are now for sale through Chestertons Residential and its Marbella associates, Panorama de Espana. Prices range from £65,000 for one and two bedrooms, from £120,000 for three bedrooms and from £316,000 for a four-bedroom penthouse with 166 square metres of terracing.

Details: Chestertons Residential, 116 Kensington High Street, London W8 7RW (01-937 7244).

Overseas Property

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PROPERTY BUYERS' GUIDE COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Hunting Gate Homes CHESTERN advertisement. Features a map of southern England and lists various property developments in Cheshire and southern counties.

SMITH WOOLLEY advertisement. Property agents with offices in Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and South Yorkshire. Lists properties for sale.

MARINE COURT, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA advertisement. Lists property details including studio flats and 1, 2, and 3 bedroom flats.

HEREFORDSHIRE, WORCS. & SHROPS advertisement. Lists properties for sale in various counties.

YORKSHIRE advertisement. Lists properties for sale in Yorkshire.

CHIEBERY CHAPLIN advertisement. Lists properties for sale in Essex and Hertfordshire.

GENERAL advertisement. Lists various property services and agents.

SEE THE PICK OF EUROPEAN PROPERTIES IN PARK LANE advertisement. Organized by CHESTERTONS RESIDENTIAL OVERSEAS. Promotes a show on Dorchester Hotel from April 22nd-23rd.

VILLARS - SWITZERLAND advertisement. Promotes luxury holiday homes near Geneva with features like skiing, golf, and international schools.

Puerto Estepona Residential advertisement. Promotes luxury apartments by yacht marine, prime position, 25 minutes from Gib.

Sibley Pares & Partners advertisement. Property agents in Kent offering 2 recent detached houses of character.

Country Property advertisement. Lists various properties for sale in different regions like East Anglia, Wiltshire, and Dorset.

EXHIBITION OF VILLAS AND APARTMENTS ON THE COSTA BLANCA advertisement. Promotes villas and apartments in Spain from April 12-18.

ASERVISA advertisement. Property agents in Spain offering a wide range of properties in the fifth largest group of Spanish companies.

Hampton & Sons advertisement. Property agents offering various country properties and cottages.

CLUTTONS advertisement. Property agents offering a variety of homes in Kent and other regions.

FRANCE advertisement. Lists properties for sale in France.

SPAIN advertisement. Lists properties for sale in Spain.

CANARY ISLANDS advertisement. Lists properties for sale in the Canary Islands.

ITALY advertisement. Lists properties for sale in Italy.

PORTUGAL advertisement. Lists properties for sale in Portugal.

SANDBANKS advertisement. Property agents offering properties in Sandbanks.

WATSON HILL & PARTNER advertisement. Estate agents in Wiltshire.

LAND FOR SALE advertisement. Lists land for sale in various locations.

West Pennard, Near Glastonbury, Somerset advertisement. Promotes an exceptional Victorian family home.

PERSONAL

All classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone... ANNOUNCEMENTS

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WORK FIRST LATE IN THE U.S... Camp America, Dept. T127, 37, Queens Gate, London SW7

PLEASE HELP THE National Accident Fund... BIRTHDAYS

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

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CALIBRE CIVS

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★ 200 PIANOS ★ FOR SALE ★

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BENTLEY & CO. now urgently require to purchase DIAMONDS AND DIAMOND JEWELLERY

Spink Buy War Medals

ASSISTANT TO OFFICE MANAGER

RESEARCH DEPT. JUNIOR

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CLAPHAM PARK/SW17

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RUGBY UNION Rutherford added to Lions squad after Bowen injury

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent... John Rutherford, Scotland's stand-off half in 37 international caps...

France have chosen a side that beat England in the Five Nations Championship last month to play against Romania at Lille on April 12...

Speculation grows over rebel tour

Sydney (AP) - A number of leading Australian rugby union players could join a rebel tour to South Africa later this month...

There has been no official rugby contact between the two nations since 1971 but some Australian officials are known to favour a resumption of matches...

King supports Games claim Lillehammer bidding for winter Olympics

The Norwegian town of Lillehammer, about 100 miles north of Oslo, is pulling out the stops in an effort to sell itself as host to the 1992 Winter Olympic Games...

Elsewhere in Norway, there have been a few raised eyebrows at the aggressiveness of the campaign...

Logistically, the town should be able to cope. There are 40,000 car parking spaces with easy access from Oslo via the E6 and a new bridge over Lake Mjøsa...

All ceremonies would be held at Stamsund, ice hockey in Hamar and Curling in Lillehammer. Local businessmen have little doubt that, commercially at least, acceptance of their offer by the IOC would be the best thing...

Tony Samstag TODAY'S FIXTURES

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS Career Power Take off with the Midland Bank Studentship Scheme

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Career Power

Take off with the Midland Bank Studentship Scheme

Three high A level grades or equivalent in 1987 with personal qualities to match, could qualify you for a sponsored place at University and launch you on a top high management career in banking and finance...

Midland Bank Group

Wanted

Overseas Travel

London

RACING: STATE OF Aintree GOING WILL PLAY MAJOR PART IN DECIDING FATE OF EXPECTED £25M OF WAGERS ON GRAND NATIONAL

Jane's Brave Boy should follow up for Chapman

David Chapman, the Stillington (Yorkshire) trainer, will always be remembered for his association with the prolific filly, Soba, who won so many good prizes for him...

Sprinters have been Chapman's forte, but he does not confine himself to speed horses and this afternoon at Hamilton Park he can take the feature race, the Lang's Supreme Scotch Whisky Trophy Handicap with the improving Jane's Brave Boy...

Door Latch holds key to fairytale

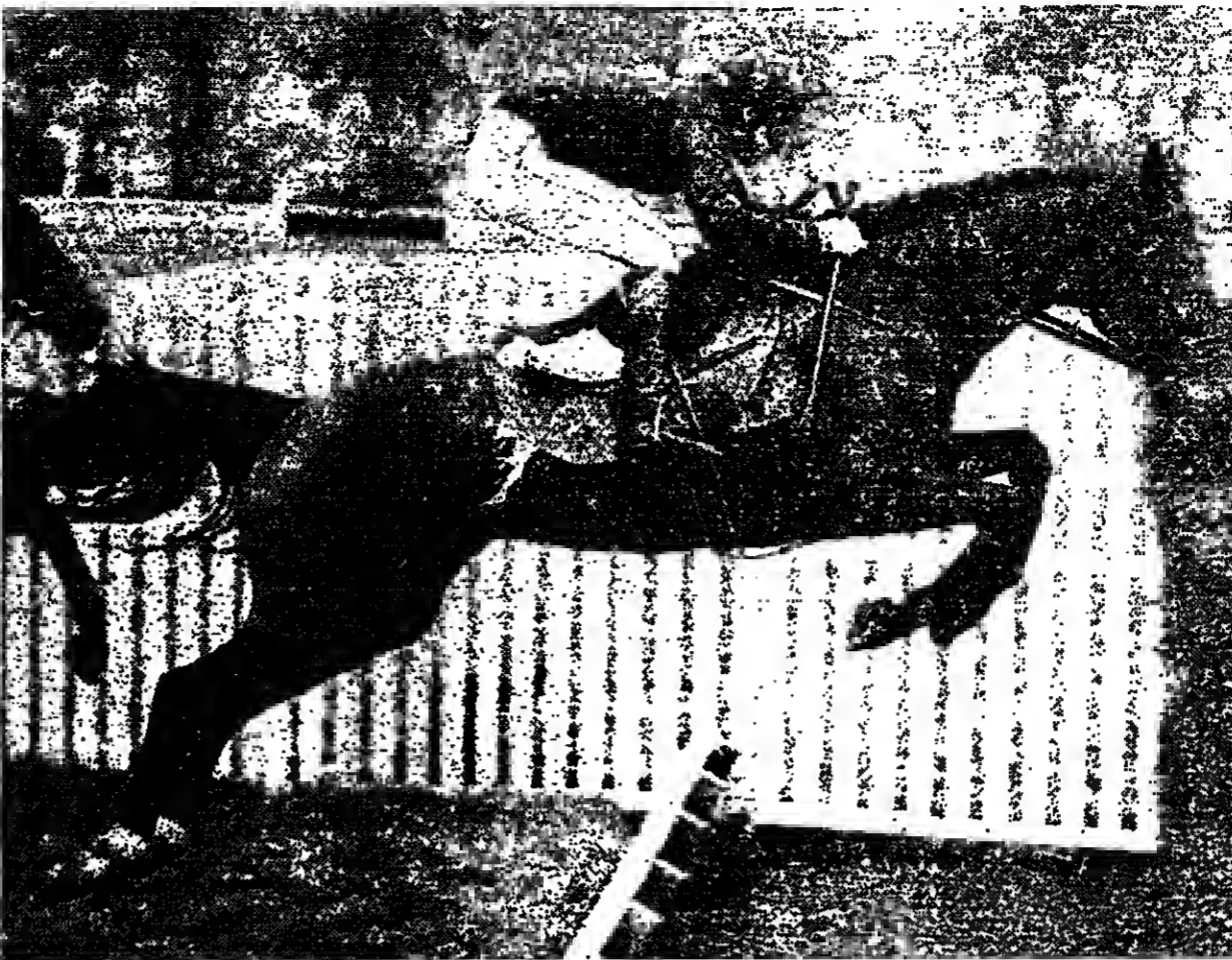
By Michael Seely

Grand National fever began to grip the racing world yesterday as the countdown to the world's most exciting steeplechase began with the publication of the four-day acceptors...

Victory for Door Latch's owner, the 91-year-old Jim Joel, would be in keeping with the fairytale results so often associated with the big race...

Richard Dunwoody went gonging easily in the lead at Bechers Brook on the final circuit. Once again a flood of money has forced the nine-year-old's price down from 16-1 to 9-1 after his recent Newbury victory...

Tim Forster is hoping for heavy going as the nation's most pessimistic trainer seeks to equal Fred Rimell's post-war record of four National winners...



Hallo Dandy, the 1984 Grand National winner who has been well backed to repeat that success

Rain could rule out Irish hardy annual

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

Greasepaint, who has played a starring role in each of the last three runnings of the Aintree Grand National, finishing in the first four every time even if outright success has always eluded him...

Given good ground, Weld believes that he is now well enough handicapped to win and he points out how well he performed under 12st in Ireland's biggest summer steeplechase, the Galway Plate, last August...

Like all his family, Peter Walwyn has a love of racing very deeply in his bones. On Saturday, the Lambourn trainer is taking a busload of 40 friends to Aintree for the fourth successive year...

Tens of thousands on the track add tens of millions of viewers will be sharing Walwyn's excitement when the starter presses the handle at 3:20 on Saturday...

National declarations and betting

Essex (Mr J Chalopka), Corbiere (B de H), Dromargara (T J Ryan), Kilkilowra (K Morpan), Last Suspect (H Davies), Door Latch (R Rowe), Acarine (R Strome), West Tip (R Dunwoody), Greasepaint (T Carney), Ballincorra Lad (-), Hallo Dandy (N Doughty), Mr Snuggit (P Tuck), The Tarevich (J White), Lantra Lodge (A Mitchell), Tracy's Special (Steve Knight), Brosey Bank (P Scammone), Classified (J Gay), Warming (Mr A Duggan), Why Forget (R Lamb), Another Duke (P Nichols), Flinders (S Sherwood), Tacy (A Suter), Lapsley (G Black), Crack (R Rank), Repetitive (G Charles-Jones), Soumeller (T J Taaffe), Young Driver (C Grant), Monaroo (T Morgan), Dodie (-), Knock Hill (M Dwyer), Ballynana (C Hawkins), Pethard Friend (P Barron), Lancel (A Skezza (-), Port Askaja (G McCom), Little Patric (C Brown), Doolings (-), Tom Cherrys (-), Northern Star (Philip Habberley), Mouse Oliver (-), King Spruce (Mrs J Carrier), Manton Castle (-) Run To Me (-), Insure (M Flynn), Onapronise (-), Briarwater (Mr D Pitcher), Succeeded (-), Colonel Chirley (-), Lambrigade (M Meehan), The Tarevich, Brosey Bank, 25-1 Plundering, 28-1 Monaroo, Northern Bay...

LATEST BETTING:

Ladbrokes: 9-1 Mr Snuggit, West Tip, 10-1 Door Latch, 14-1 Hallo Dandy, 16-1 Corbiere, Greasepaint, Last Suspect, The Tarevich, 20-1 Brosey Bank, Knock Hill, 25-1 Monaroo, Northern Bay, Plundering...

Today's course specialists

- HAMILTON FONTWELL
TRAMERS: M Pearson, 25 winners from 32 races, 20.7%...

HAMILTON PARK

- Going: soft
Draw: 51-61, middle to high numbers best
2.15 BANANA RUM MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O; £200; 1m 40yds) (5 runners)...

Warwick results

- Going: soft
2.15 BANANA RUM MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O; £200; 1m 40yds) (5 runners)...

FONTWELL PARK

- Going: heavy
2.0 LISLEY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (2001; 1m 20) (21)...

Hamilton selections

- 2.15 Mr Kewmell, 2.45 Brave And Bold, 3.15 JANE'S BRAVE BOY (nap), 3.45 Minzlin Lady, 4.15 Correspondent, 4.45 Sonny One Shine...

Fontwell selections

- 2.0 Shuttlecock Star, 2.30 Hiz, 3.0 Cumrew, 3.30 Crestun, 4.0 San Carlos, 4.30 Graiguemanzag...

3.15 LANG'S SUPREME SCOTCH WHISKY TROPHY HANDICAP

- 4.45 (1m 40yds) 111
6.45 (1m 40yds) 111
4.45 (1m 40yds) 111...

Fontwell selections

- 2.0 Shuttlecock Star, 2.30 Hiz, 3.0 Cumrew, 3.30 Crestun, 4.0 San Carlos, 4.30 Graiguemanzag...

4.0 AMBERLEY NOVICE HURDLE (4-Y-O; £500; 2m 2f)

- 6.45 (2m 2f) 112
6.45 (2m 2f) 112...

4.15 GLENGOYNE MALT WHISKY QUACH HANDICAP

- 4.15 (1m 40yds) 111
4.15 (1m 40yds) 111...

4.0 ROBERT GORE MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP

- 4.0 (2m 2f) 111
4.0 (2m 2f) 111...

4.0 ROBERT GORE MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP

- 4.0 (2m 2f) 111
4.0 (2m 2f) 111...

4.45 TOTTER HOME MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O; £200; 1m 40yds)

- 4.45 (1m 40yds) 111
4.45 (1m 40yds) 111...

4.0 ROBERT GORE MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP

- 4.0 (2m 2f) 111
4.0 (2m 2f) 111...

Sheppard equals women's record

By Brian Beel
With her win on Barkip at the Essex Farmers' meeting on Monday Josephine Sheppard equalled Pat Tolly's record of 171 winners by a woman rider in point-to-point...

Haydon Jones doubles up

Derek Haydon Jones, the Pontreppid trainer, got off the mark for the season at Warwick yesterday with a 20-1 double through Record Wing and Chappelow and had starting stalls been used for all races it might have been a treble...

Dermost Weld: soft ground warning on Greasepaint

Dermost Weld, soft ground warning on Greasepaint. Greasepaint, who has played a starring role in each of the last three runnings of the Aintree Grand National...

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4.45 TOTTER HOME MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O; £200; 1m 40yds) (11)...

4.0 ROBERT GORE MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP (2m 2f) (11)...

4.0 ROBERT GORE MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP (2m 2f) (11)...

Today's television and radio programmes Edited by Jane Henderson and Peter Davalle

Scots no... in white...

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax... 6.50 Breakfast Time with Frank... 9.25 Roland Rat's Easter...

TV AM

6.15 Good Morning Britain... 9.25 Thames News headlines...

ITV LONDON

9.25 Thames News headlines... 11.30 Talking Personality...

CHOICE

physical confidence of the whites... DAVID GOLDBLATT IN BLACK AND WHITE...

BBC 2

9.00 Ceefax... 9.30 Open University: Start up...

CHANNEL 4

2.30 Film: Road to Morocco... 4.00 News at One...

Radio 4

On long waves... 5.00 PM News magazine...

Radio 3

All programmes on medium wave... 6.55 Weather, 7.00 News...

CHOICE

Concerto in D minor... Peter Davalle

Radio 2

On long waves... 5.00 PM News magazine...

Radio 1

All programmes on medium wave... 6.55 Weather, 7.00 News...

Radio 2

On medium wave... News on the hour...

Radio 1

All programmes on medium wave... 6.55 Weather, 7.00 News...

World Service

5.00 News... 5.30 Meridian 7.00 News... 7.30 News...

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES... LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE... NATIONAL THEATRE...

THEATRES... ALBERT FINNEY... ORPHANS... STARS... TORCH SONG...

MUSIC... THE SCARLET Pimpernel... THE BUSINESS OF... RICHARD TODD...

MUSIC... THE SCARLET Pimpernel... THE BUSINESS OF... RICHARD TODD...

MUSIC... THE SCARLET Pimpernel... THE BUSINESS OF... RICHARD TODD...

MUSIC... THE SCARLET Pimpernel... THE BUSINESS OF... RICHARD TODD...

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MUSIC... THE SCARLET Pimpernel... THE BUSINESS OF... RICHARD TODD...

England need reminder

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Port of Spain

Within a day or two of the England manager, Tony Brown, saying that for the rest of the tour all practices would be compulsory, yesterday's was again made optional. Of the 17 players seven attended. Those who sunbathed or hopped across to Tobago or lay in wait for the scarlet iris have it on their minds. I am sure that Monday's defeat in the last of the one-day internationals was England's fifth in succession, an unprecedented sequence over all the years.

How this arose about yesterday's practice was that after Monday's match Gower asked whether anyone would like to join him for a knock yesterday morning. In the event, Ellison, Gatting, Slack, Smith, Thomas and Willey did so. Had Brown felt strongly enough that there should be no scrimshankers he could, in theory, have told everyone to turn up; he has the authority to intervene in cricketing matters as a last resort. Though that is a right which a manager very rarely exercises.

Last Friday, when Gower made England's first practice optional after the loss, three days earlier, of the third Test in Barbados, Brown thought it was a wrong decision, for psychological as well as cricketing reasons. We mostly did. Yesterday I felt the same, but the manager, having taken everything into account, did not. In his view this was not an optional practice, the day having originally been left free, but a voluntary one. If the difference is semantic, it was the explanation given.

Though it may seem from this as though he is, Brown is not in fact a vacillating type. He bore in mind yesterday that that England have had only one full day's cricket in the last nine, but that there is a full-scale practice today and for the players who matter most a busy time lies ahead with a possible 10 day's Test cricket in the next 14. Like Gower, he thought no good would come of a hard workout yesterday. I would have seen one more as a

sharp reminder, and everyone would still have been free for the scarlet iris and quite enough time by the pool.

Concerning this question of priorities, the touring contracts of the two managers could well define more sharply where their respective authority begins and ends. Willis's, although he is the coach, allows him no say, so he believes, in who should go to practice and who should not. "It's entirely up to the captain to decide who does what, and when they do it, he's in sole charge of the cricket," says Willis. Ideally, of course, all three would work in close conjunction, but because Brown and Willis are not as compatible as they might be, that has not always happened here.

England are playing so poorly at the moment that they could just have arrived in West Indies. Instead, only the last two Tests remain. There was nothing to be frightened of on Monday, the pitch being slow and the West Indian bowlers pitching the ball well up. The batsmen, it is true, have very little confidence left, because of what they have been through, but the side should still be making much more of themselves than they are.

It was disappointing to score only 165 for nine in 48 overs, but in the conditions it was not contemptible. West Indies bowled and fielded very well, and it was an awkward pitch on which to force the pace, certainly for the ordinary mortal. Gooch could have done it, but he was soon out. Lamh, a hustler, spent 13 overs making 16. Robinson, who played the longest innings, found it slow going. What has not improved at all on the tour, and it showed, is England's running between the wickets. They seem quite unaware of what they are missing, though they have had two months in which to learn from the West Indians.

Simply by taking a fast first run to third man on Monday,

Richards and Haynes put Embury under sufficient pressure to force a slight misfield and so open the way for a safe second. England would have been much less likely to bother. Few, unfortunately, see the short single, and Lamb, who does, looks in vain for partners to respond to him, unless he is batting with Gower.

Except that Botham is a bad clown and Lamb is not a Warden or a Barrington, there was no harm in their larking about on the boundary. England had played misguidedly at times and badly at others. They do, I think, lack discipline; but no one with much knowledge of cricket would have seen Botham's acceptance of a lot of run from someone in the crowd as the reason for England's defeat. Hendren used to do the same, though he, I fancy, would have ever found himself as a member of an England side in this one's present plight. They ought all to have practised, whether ordered to or not.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND

G A Gooch c Richards	10
R T Robinson b Marshall	27
D J Gower b Walsh	26
A J Lamb c Duff	20
T Botham c Harper b Garner	28
P Willey c Greenidge b Marshall	6
P R Coward	2
R M Ellison	12
J E Embury not out	2
P H Edmonds	11
Extras (lb 4, w 2, nb 3)	10
Total (9 wickets)	165

WEST INDIES

C G Greenidge	0
O L Haynes not out	77
R D Richardson c Gooch b Embury	31
T V A Richards not out	50
Extras (lb 7, w 1)	8
Total (for 2 wickets, 38.2 overs)	166

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-49, 3-86, 4-126, 5-128, 6-154, 7-161, 8-165, 9-165.

BOWLING: Marshall 5-127-4, Garner 9-1-22-3, Holding 9-1-32-0, Walsh 10-0-25-2, Harper 10-0-44-0.



Never mind the width of the rink, feel the quality of the skating: Susan Jackson fall of joy unconfined at Richmond

Britain cramps world's style

Caution was a priority for the world's skating champions, including Debi Thomas, Brian Boitano and all the top Russians, when they took the ice at last night's Richmond gala and displayed the prowess that won them titles and medals at Geneva last week.

Unlike most ice rinks abroad, that at Richmond is not the standard 60 metres by 30 metres (approximately 196ft by 98ft 4in) but is 200ft by 81ft. Take-offs for jumps need to be shortened, programmes adjusted and dance steps omitted here and there to avoid impact with the barriers. The 17-foot difference in width is perilous.

Richmond, far from being the home of British skating, can be forgiven its shape. Built long before the switch to metric standards and at a time when most of the world appeared red in school attire, its peculiarities can be tolerated. Indeed, its quaintness can be a relief.

What cannot be forgiven, however, is that all other ice rinks in Britain, including those recently built and under construction, are not of the size expected by international skaters.

That at Slough, opening shortly, is 56 metres by 26 metres. So, too, will be the rinks nearing completion at Chelmsford and Cardiff. Proposed rinks at Greenwich, Basingstoke and Norwich will also be undersized, it is understood.

Not one of the rinks opened over the last three or four years — namely at Lee Valley, London, Oxford, Gillingham, Swindon, Telford and Peterborough — could provide the ice dimensions on which international championships could be held. They would even be unsuitable as training rinks for a world championship.

The size is critical. It is like taking a foot off each side of a tennis court, two yards off a racing pool, or skanking a snooker table by three inches all round. Slough Council opted for their 56 metres by 26 metres rink because of costs. Apparently it meant a difference between £3.5 million for the smaller size and £5 million for the fuller size, according to Jimmy Young, who will be its director.

Young, a trainer of the former British ice-dance champions, Karen Barber and Nicky Slater, hopes to turn Slough into a national ice-dance centre but knows only too well that top couples must train on full-size rinks. Ten days before Geneva he had to move from Richmond to Oberstdorf in West Germany with the Japanese champions whom he is coaching. No British rink was up to the mark.

Bernard Ford, a former world ice-dance champion and Canadian national coach, said: "A full-size rink would cost £5 million. So what? Slough is virtually pouring £3.5 million down the drain."

When I asked Alex McGowan, trainer of Debi Thomas, the world figure-skating champion, why so many British coaches like himself worked abroad, he replied: "Whenever I asked other trainers that question here in Geneva they invariably came up with the same answer: 'lack of a 60 by 30-metre rink.'"

FOOTBALL: CHAMPIONSHIP ASPIRATIONS FADE FOR MANCHESTER UNITED

First division race cut to three runners

The field of potential English champions has been reduced to three. Liverpool, Everton and West Ham United, who will strengthen their claim if they win their third fixture in five days tonight at Nottingham Forest, are the only clubs that can realistically expect to collect the most significant prize of the season.

Chelsea, who dropped out of the race dramatically over Easter, and Arsenal, who withdrew more gently, could scarcely have been considered genuine contenders over such

a lengthy and demanding course anyway. But Manchester United, the other challengers to pull up over the weekend, were once several laps ahead and odds on to win.

The turning point took place on November 9 at 12 minutes past three. It was then, against Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough, that Bryan Robson sustained a leg injury. Later that afternoon United's opening sequence of 13 first division games without defeat had

ended, and so, effectively, had their title ambitions. Although one individual should not be held responsible for the success or failure of a team, particularly one full of established internationals, Robson is considered an essential and irreplaceable leader of his country and his club. Bobby Robson, England's manager, described him as "unique".

He added that his namesake is a more complete player than the gifted Platini, of Juventus and France, who twice won the European Footballer of the Year. But Robson's appearances for United have been limited by injuries to only 23 of their 46 games. He was unable to complete three of those.

Robson's contribution has been undeniable. Under his leadership, United lost only four matches. Those defeats were at Hillsborough, at West Ham, when he also limped off with an ankle injury, at Southampton, which happened to be his first game back, and at home in a meaningless Screen

Sports Super Cup tie against Everton. Without him, United went out to Liverpool in the Milk Cup and succumbed to relatively mediocre opposition in the Canon League such as Leicester City and Queens Park Rangers. Crucially, over the last fortnight, they have dropped nine points and lie five behind their Merseyside rivals.

Although Robson returned, and scored, at Birmingham City on Saturday, he has come back too late to lift them into contention. Typically, he remains defiant. "We were poor at Birmingham," he says. "We should have pushed them more but the level of our performance against Everton gives us reason for hope."

"It was obviously disappointing not to get a goal against them but we did enough to edge it. We have to remember to play like that every time we go out and not just against the League champions." Yet his own display in the 0-0 draw was

significantly less forceful and less powerful than usual. Robson maintains that his shoulder is "100 per cent better" than it was at the corresponding stage when I last "dislocated" it. He will continue to protect it in a harness until the end of the season but the damage, as far as United are concerned, would seem already to have been done.

Their current strike force embraces one forward, Daventry, who has yet to settle in and another, Hughes, who is on his way out. Before it was known that he had signed for Barcelona, Hughes was listless. Now he performs for the audience as though he were already on show in the Nou Camp.

Ron Atkinson, United's manager, predictably also believes that "the championship is far from over". But his attack is disjointed, one of his central defenders, Higgins, has a broken hand and his leading inspiration is playing with a limp that has twice been displaced. Only those within the club would claim that their challenge is not tottering, if not already collapsed.

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MOTOR RALLYING

Toyota finding it tough at the top

Nairobi (AP) — The Toyota team fought off mechanical problems, fast-closing rivals and the rigours of a 12-hour, non-stop drive to hold on to the first three places going into yesterday's final stages of the Safari Rally.

Bjorn Waldegaard, of Sweden, managed to maintain his overnight lead, pulling his Celica TC into the Eldoret rest-stop at noon, having amassed 248 penalty points.

Lars-Eric Torph, his compatriot and team-mate, was second on 276 and West German Erwin Weber, of West Germany, third on 311.

The defending champion Juha Kankkunen, of Finland, took advantage of the mechanical problems suffered by the Toyotas to reduce what had been a commanding lead by the Japanese cars. He was fourth in his Peugeot 205 on 316, while the Finnish driver Markku Alen, in a Lancia, was fifth with 328.

Waldegaard was one driver to suffer when a broken right rear hub cost him more than 30 minutes. Weber lost second place when his rear axle broke and penalty points piled up as he waited for mechanics aboard a helicopter to bring a new axle.

The Kenya Safari was marred yesterday by an accident in which a spectator was killed when a Volkswagen Golf, driven by Kenneth Eriksson, of Sweden, ploughed off the road with a broken steering rod.

The tough, 1,022-mile circuit through western Kenya brought about the retirements of six of the 25 drivers who began the gruelling, third and final leg in Nairobi.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Fulham's lifeline

Fulham Rugby League club seem likely to survive, at least for this season (Keith Macklin writes). Shareholders and creditors decided at a meeting yesterday morning not to go ahead with the planned liquidation.

The avenger

Marco Island, Florida (Reuters) — Marcella Mesker, of The Netherlands, overcame Annabel Croft, of Britain, 6-0, 7-0 in the first round of the Tournament of Champions tennis tournament yesterday, gaining revenge for a resounding defeat at the hands of the Briton the previous time they met.

Larkins' injury

Northamptonshire's former England batsman, Wayne Larkins, may miss the start of the season because of a football injury. Larkins, who was playing for the United Counties League side, Buckingham, damaged his right ankle in a clash with the opposition's goalkeeper. Larkins has his best cricket season.

Clean sweep

Toronto (UPI) — Sweden and Scotland remained the only undefeated teams after the opening day of competition at the Silver Broom world curling championships here.

Top junior

Florence, Italy (AP) — Javier Sanchez, of Spain, won an international junior tennis event here after beating Eugenio Rossi, of Italy, 6-4, 6-0 in the final. Bertina Fulco, of Argentina, beat Martina Ghizzi, of Italy, 6-2, 6-1 in the women's final.

Drug-net call

Athletes caught taking drugs should be banned from competition for life without any chance of reinstatement, according to the former Australian long-distance runner, Ron Clarke. "Random drug testing is useless unless the person found guilty is disqualified for life," Clarke said. He retired after the 1970 Commonwealth Games. "There should be no second chance."

Spectator killed

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Economy size for Britons

John Scott, the skating liaison officer of the Sports Council, who provides prospective developers with an "ice pack" of information, explained: "Once you go over 56 metres by 26 metres it involves a different structure. There is a geometric progression which shoots up the price."

First Welsh winner

David Llewellyn, a 25-year-old farmer, was the first Welsh driver to win Ireland's top rally, the Rothmans Circuit of Ireland, when he came to the Belfast finish of the five-day event just under nine minutes ahead of Russell Brookes, from the Midlands, yesterday.

Backing boost

Sealink British Ferries are to continue their sponsorship of cycling by backing the 1986 women's and junior road race series. The first event in the women's series is the Central District two-day race at Tilton near Leicester, on April 19-20. The six-race junior series starts with the Peak Forest races at Buxton on April 13.

Tennis Tax relief considered

Wimbledon may consider paying players' hotel bills after this year's championships. Any payment (a flat rate of £63 a day has been touted on behalf of the players) would offset the fact that from next year prize money will be taxable at source.

Michael Coleman

Handwritten signature or note.